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18 March 1986

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BURMA

NE WIN EXTENDS GREETINGS MESSAGE ON PEASANTS DAY

BK020840 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 0630 GMT 2 Mar 86

[2 March greetings message from U Ne Win, chairman of the Burma Socialist Program Party, to mass rallies held to mark 1986 Peasants Day--read by announcer]

[Text] To all of the esteemed peasantry: I extend joyous greetings to all of the peasantry on this Peasants Day--an auspicious day of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma [SRUB]--observed in honor of the peasantry.

The Peasants Organization at different levels under the leadership of the Burma Socialist Program Party is carrying out formative and organizational work on an extensive scale. The organizational work presently being carried out is aimed at getting every peasant to join the organization and getting organization members to become party members and will further strengthen and broaden the organizational setup of the Peasant Organization at different levels and further raise its leadership role.

Therefore, the Peasants Organization at different levels is to step up, with the participation and cooperation of the entire mass of the peasantry, its organizational work in order to further strengthen and broaden the organizational setup and further raise its leadership role.

The SRUB is striving to turn itself into an agricultural-based industrial nation. At present we are producing more crops in the agricultural sector in accordance with the economic plans of the state, and moreover, it is necessary to strive to replant more and more virgin and fallow land, to increase the per acre yield of crops, to raise the quality of the agricultural products, and to reduce losses and wastage so that yearly projected plans will be implemented.

Only when we are able to ensure sufficiency for domestic consumption in proportion to the yearly increase in population as well as to export more and more will it be possible for us to bring about the development of the state. Hence, the entire mass of the peasantry who are primarily engaged in agricultural work must continue to make the greatest of efforts to ensure the successful implementation of the economic plan for 1986-87--the first year of the Fifth 4-Year Plan.

The need for ridding the country of destructive elements of all manifestations cannot be overemphasized at the time when we are building a socialist society and carrying out the development plans of the state. As a result of the onslaught of the people's armed forces undertaken with the participation of the people, including the peasants, the insurgents have crumbled and disintegrated, and the remnants now exist only in some remote areas of the country. The entire mass of the peasantry is to persist in their cooperation with the people's armed forces in crushing the remaining insurgents and destructive elements.

Therefore, I firmly urge the peasantry to join hands with the other people and enthusiastically make utmost efforts to realize the three political objectives--to strengthen and broaden the organizational setup at different levels and to further raise the leadership role of the Peasants Organization; for the entire mass of the peasantry to strive for the successful implementation of the 1986-87 economic plan; and for the peasants to take an active part, particularly hand in hand with the people's armed forces, in crushing the destructive elements.

/8309

CSO: 4211/33

BURMA

VOPB AIRS PEOPLE'S ARMY, KAYAH GROUP COMBAT NEWS

BK020956 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Burma in Burmese 0130 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] On 30 October, a small unit of the People's Army made a guerrilla attack near (Hona) in Pekon Township against the military government's mercenary 9th Infantry Regiment. The attack killed one enemy soldier and wounded two others. On 16 November, a guerrilla unit of the People's Army attacked enemy soldiers from the mercenary 18th Infantry Regiment's 3d Company at [words indistinct]. One enemy soldier was killed and another was wounded in the battle.

On 16 April 1985, a guerrilla attack near (?Pangwo) in Hsihseng Township resulted in two enemy soldiers from the mercenary 13th Infantry Regiment being killed and another wounded. Also on 18 April, four more enemy soldiers from the 19th Infantry Regiment were killed and nine others were wounded in a battle near (Maw Tanaw) in Loikaw Township. The People's Army captured an M-79, 12 rounds of M-79 shells, and other military supplies.

On 6 and 7 May, the mercenary 19th Infantry Regiment was attacked near (Jan Kali) in Saga Township. The enemy suffered four dead and two wounded. We captured 1 flare gun and 140 rounds of flares.

On 19, 20, and 21 May, small units of the People's Army waged mine and guerrilla warfare, and in three encounters--twice near (Tonhong) in Mong Hsu Township and once near (Tawng Mokkyo) Village in (Kawngta) township--four enemy soldiers from the mercenary 13th Infantry Regiment were wounded.

At 1600 on 23 May, the People's Army attacked and overran within a minute a platoon encampment of the mercenary 72d Infantry Regiment at (Samai Leta) in Pekon Township. The mercenary soldiers, who had been harrassing the people in nearby villages, suffered three dead and four wounded. One G-2, 3 G-3's, 1 Sten, more than 800 rounds of assorted ammunition, 1 mine, and other military supplies were captured in the battle.

Again in May 1985, a guerrilla attack on the mercenary 10th Light Infantry Regiment between (Lon Aung) and (Loi Lut) villages in Mong Sit Township resulted in three enemy soldiers being killed and six others wounded.

Combat news of the combined force of the People's Army and the Kayah New Land Revolutionary Council [KNLRC]: On 2 December 1984, a combined unit of the People's Army and the KNLRC ambushed a column of the mercenary 18th Infantry Regiment's 3d Company between (Dalipla) and (Tawngdan) villages in Pekong Township. The ambush killed five enemy soldiers, including a mercenary captain, and wounded six others, including a corporal. Four soldiers were taken prisoner. Three G-2's, 2 G-4's, 1 Sten, 1 40-mm launcher, 3 grenades, over 400 rounds of assorted ammunition, including 2 60-mm shells, and other military supplies were captured.

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CSO: 4211/33

BURMA

VOPB RAPS GOVERNMENT ON NEW DEMONETIZATION ROUND

BK021420 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Burma in Burmese 1230 GMT
2 Mar 86

[Unattributed "article": "The Increasingly Cunning Deed of the Military Government"]

[Text] The Burmese people are suffering from the full impact of the second round of demonetization by the military government. [sentence indistinct] The demonetization this time around shows all the signs of an even more nefarious mind as it was well planned and in detail based on the experiences gained from the first round of demonetization.

For instance, when the demonetization was implemented the first time, everybody was permitted to submit all the money they held. But this time, only one person can represent each family, and even that person can only submit his money once. There were no exceptions to the rule, including the monks. All monks in a monastery had to submit their money through the abbot. The rule is designed to benefit the military government, because it limits the amount of money it refunds to each individual.

From the way the robbery was committed by the military government it is evident that the military government not only ignores the interests of the people but also lacks faith in and bears on animosity towards the people. The tone of the so-called laws and notifications issued also remind us of the time when they staged the coup and treated everyone as an enemy. The laws and notifications this time around are also full of threats. Instead of apologizing to the people for declaring illegal the currency notes it itself has issued, the military government was on the offensive and venting anger.

The military government laid down conditions twice for refunding money. The second time was even more evidence of the way the military government adds insult to injury to the people. Moreover, it did not clearly define how the cash was going to be refunded, and the announcements omitted facts thus making the people panic.

In 1964, when the 100-kyat and 50-kyat notes were demonetized, people who held these notes were given 500 kyat refund immediately and 4,200 kyat refund later. The amount above 4,200 kyat was refunded after deductions. The demonetization this time round was worse. According to the notification issued by the State Council on 15 November, only 25 percent of the cash submitted was refunded, and nothing was clearly explained about refunding the balance. Can anything ever be as bad as this?

There is yet one more point to be made in this connection. This time around, the military government first announced that up to 5,000 kyat would be fully refunded while 50 percent of the balance would be given back later. People were given a month to submit their cash. But 11 days after people started to submit their cash, a second notification was issued reducing the amount to be refunded and shortening the period to submit money. They gave the excuse that they were acting against the moneyed people and armed revolutionaries, and only 17 days were permitted to submit cash. In all probability, they knew beforehand that they were only going to permit 17 days for people to submit money, because anyone could have dreamed up the excuse they used well in advance. The Burma Socialist Program Party [BSPP] Government after making the first announcement refunded money for a short while in order to boost its image. But the bulk of the money and the majority of the people were caught unaware in the new 25 percent refund rule. This caused a panic among people who only then rushed to submit their money.

Throughout the demonetization process, we have also come to see very clearly how different levels of the organs of power within the military government's machinery operate. Notification No 1/85 was issued in the name of the Council of Ministers to announce the demonetization. But the following day, the said Council of Ministers completed its tenure and ceased to function legally. [sentence indistinct] The case was then submitted before their own showcase People's Assembly for endorsement. It means that even their own assembly representatives who were then in Rangoon were not reliable enough to be informed about the notification beforehand. Whatever the reasons may be, the assembly very dutifully rubberstamped the decision. Very likely, the assembly representatives from the districts were very worried about their 100, 50, and 20-kyat notes at home while at the assembly session.

Next, the People's Assembly Law No 14 was promulgated, and 8 days after this, the State Council reportedly exercising its rights amended that law which was already passed by almost 500 assembly representatives. In fact, the law was not amended; it was more correctly abrogated, because all the important points of that law were substituted with other clauses. The question to pose here is: Are all of them--the Council of Ministers, the People's Assembly and the State Council--trying to outdo each other as actors on the stage of the military government? No. It merely means that all the organs of power within the military government machinery whatever names they may assume, are in name only to be used conveniently by a handful of members of the military clique.

What now, is the result? The military government has issued a 75-kyat note which, try whichever way you may, can never be bundled into 1,000 kyat, 5,000 kyat, or 10,000 kyat wads. When it comes to such ideas, the military government ranks top in the world for innovation. Perhaps, it wants the people to become adept in calculating with the pentadecimal as well as decimal system through this 75-kyat note.

The people of Burma have come to know the worst kind of problems under the more than 23 years of rule by the military government. For instance, they have been robbed twice through the demonetization processes. As long as the government survives there will be more such difficulties; there can be no doubt about it. The already high prices have soared higher and shortages of goods are getting worse now. The military government is trying to drag the people into a quagmire of economic problems which itself cannot escape. To be free from such troubles, it is very evident that we must free ourselves from the yoke of the military government.

/8309

CSO: 4211/33

BURMA

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO NIGERIA--The president of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma has appointed U Tin Tun, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma to the United Kingdom, concurrently as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma to the Federal Republic of Nigeria. [Text] [Rangoon WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 17 Feb 86 p 1] /8309

AMBASSADOR TO CUBA--The president of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma has appointed U Maung Maung Gyi, permanent representative of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma to the United Nations, New York, concurrently as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma to the Republic of Cuba. [Text] [Rangoon WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 17 Feb 86 p 1] /8309

CSO: 4200/764

INDONESIA

PARLIAMENT PASSES TIGHT, BALANCED BUDGET

HK280520 Hong Kong AFP in English 0515 GMT 28 Feb 86

[Text] Jakarta, 28 Feb (AFP)--The Indonesian Parliament has passed the government's austere draft budget, the first to decrease in volume in 20 years under President Suharto's administration.

The slightly more than 15 billion U.S. under balanced budget, presented by President Suharto in January, features belt-tightening amidst declining oil revenue.

It calls for seven percent cut from the current budget that ends on 31 March.

State revenue is diminished by 4.5 percent, while foreign loans are decreased 17.8 percent. Routine expenditure is increased 5.9 percent but development expenditure is cut drastically by 22.1 percent.

The official ANTARA NEWS AGENCY said Friday that Parliament passed the draft Thursday with no significant changes. Finance Minister Radius Prawiro had reassured Parliament that no rupiah devaluation or domestic fuel price rise was planned, ANTARA said.

A budget revision or a devaluation of the local currency to offset the effects of declining oil revenue had been widely anticipated.

In an earlier session, the government brushed aside any major revision of the draft on grounds that the oil price situation was unsettled and prices could still rise or fall.

/8309

CSO: 4200/767

INDONESIA

MELBOURNE REPORTS TUXWORTH TALKS ON EAST TIMOR

BK020718 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0430 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] The governor of the Indonesian Province of East Timor, Mr Mario Carrascalao, has told Australia that there are hardcore Fretilin guerrillas fighting for independence for East Timor who will never surrender. AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATED PRESS said Mr Carrascalao's comment was made to the visiting chief minister for the Northern Territory, Mr Ian Tuxworth, when he arrived in East Timor for a 24-hour visit. Mr Tuxworth today completes a 10-day visit to Indonesia aimed at improving relations and expanding trade and tourism.

Mr Carrascalao is reported to have told Mr Tuxworth that the hard core of about 40 guerrillas would never leave the mountain areas. However, he said they were now only a minor obstacle to East Timor's development. Mr Carrascalao also told Mr Tuxworth that it would be 3 years before East Timor could cope with the tourist industry.

At earlier talks, Indonesia's minister for foreign affairs, Dr Mokhtar, told Mr Tuxworth it would be some time before the territory was safe for tourism. Dr Mokhtar was also cautious on suggestions that East Timorese now settled in Australia would be allowed to return for family reunion. He said he feared that pro-Fretilin elements would take advantage of the opportunity to create trouble.

/8309

CSO: 4200/767

LAOS

CEREMONY MARKS FORMATION OF CREDIT CO-OPS

Vientiane KHAOSAN PATHET LAO in Lao 4 Jan 86 pp A3, 4

[Article: "Vientiane Capital Opens Its Third Credit Co-op in Nasaithong District"]

[Text] On 3 January the Vientiane Capital branch of the State Bank and the mobilization unit for credit funds and credit co-ops in Nasaithong District organized a ceremony for setting up a credit co-op in Ban Na Khoun Noi under the district mentioned and under the chairman of the ceremony, Mr Siho Bannavong. The assistant chairman of Vientiane Capital, the district administrative committee in Nasaithong, and the chief of the State of Vientiane Capital branch attended, along with many cadres concerned.

Credit funds and credit co-ops are important factors in organizing the socialist collective economy and have an important role and significance for constructing the new socialist economy and other co-ops. Their purposes are to help the bank, to mobilize the savings deposit process, and to obtain capital shares from their members. They have the right to work independently according to the economic plan and in close relation with the bank to manage the cash within their own village, and to make it possible for the members to borrow money in order to improve the family economy according to the party's and government's policy on the principle of mutual interest.

This organizing of credit funds and credit co-op in Ban Khoun Noi is the third of its kind in Vientiane Capital. The first was organized in Ban Dan Sang, Saithani District, and the second was organized in Ban Sithan Tai in Hatsaifong District. They are to carry out the new socialist economic machinery aiming at raising the standard of living of the people to be steadily prosperous and to take part in defending and constructing the socialist nation and to ensure its ceaseless growth.

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CSO: 4206/63

LAOS

TIN ORE SURVEY OFFICER DISCUSSES PRODUCTION, USSR AID

Vientiane KHAOSAN PATHET LAO in Lao 7 Jan 86 p A9

[Article: "Results of the Tin Ore Company's First 5-year Plan"]

[Text] The Tin Ore Survey Company in the Pathen Reservoir area of Khammouan Province under the Geology and Mining Department of the Ministry of Industry, Handicrafts, and Forestry, a cooperative Lao-Soviet project for the years 1980-1985, is under the first state 5-year economic plan. In the period 1980-85 the tin ore survey that started to mine and supply ore to the tin mining factory was completed as planned; 6.5 million tons of tin ore were found.

Comrade Phasit Sengmani, chief of the tin ore survey company, told us that the purpose of the survey, search, and assessment of tin ore in the Pathen water reservoir area and the survey for raw tin resources was to supply three tin-producing companies and to look for data to determine the total amount of tin ore in Phon Tieu, Tham Seua, Nong Sin, Ban Pha Lem, and Ban Sao, which totaled approximately 30,032 million tons, with 71,000 tons of newly mined tin. The survey for the basic calculation of tin sources has now been completed. Moreover, the actual amount of tin in Pathen Reservoir is calculated to be 29,336 tons with 0.20 percent newly mined tin in about 66,975 tons. Over the past 5 years they also succeeded in the main search in five districts—Mahasai, Gnommalat, Boualapha, Khamkert, and Khammaouan District—and explored locations where tin and gold ore were found in these areas.

In all the tasks that are successfully carried out, they collected 10,908 chemical samples and 869 samples by panning, resurveyed for inspection purposes in 12 groups, dug a ditch of 14.227 cubic meters and a well 833 meters deep, drilled a borehole 28,561 meters deep, collected and tested industrial ore samples 4 times, cut 493 km of road, constructed 102 km of road, mapped 2,155 locations on a survey, analyzed the brightness of 18 ores from 25,688 samples, did chemical analyses of 6,800 samples, analyzed 37,430 samples for radioactivity, performed 57 animal autopsies, analyzed 350 samples of soil chemicals, and ground up 25,740 ore samples.

After they had done half of the detailed surveys the tin survey company handed the tasks over to the workers to mine and manufacture for distribution.

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CSO: 4206/63

LAOS

STEEP PRICE RISES FOR DOMESTIC PRODUCTS EXPLAINED

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 21, 22 Jan 86

["Conversation With the Editor" column: "Why Have There Also Been Changes in the Prices for Domestic Goods?"]

[21 Jan 86 p 2]

[Excerpt] [Question] 1. I have a question about our consumer products. The price for fermented fish which before was 50 kip per kg is now 75 kip per kg, yet this is a domestic product. Why did the price change? Please explain the reason for this. Vientiane, 7 November 1985, from the Mekong River.

[Answer] Dear "Mekong River." VIENTIANE MAI has discussed many times already the price changes for certain products. However, to help you understand better, I would like to discuss other ideas. We will not speak about the principles of the theory but only in an informal manner between us. I am not sure I can make it clear to you since I myself know only a little about the matter.

The change in prices for goods at home and abroad is aimed at economic expansion and has its subjective and objective aspects. Economics and finance are very complex matters which must be studied carefully, and which can be discussed endlessly. Thus, price changes also play a part in promoting the economy and thus ensuring the standard of living for people in society. For example, suppose you raise a buffalo which was previously appraised, in terms of its price, at 100 kg of rice. When the price of rice changes you cannot barter your buffalo for 600 kg of rice as before, because the change in the price of rice could be lower. However, if you want to exchange the buffalo and rice in the same ratio as before, it is necessary to raise the price of the buffalo so as to obtain 100 kg of rice, as before.

[22 Jan 86 pp 2, 3]

[Excerpts] For another example, suppose you raise a chicken and barter it for a pair of pants. Later, if the price of a pair of pants has changed, you cannot exchange a chicken for a pair of pants unless the price of the chicken is also raised. If the price of the chicken does not go up you will not want

to raise chickens any more because they would have no value. As a result, the economy will not expand. Therefore, we must raise the price of products. In doing this, emphasis has to be placed on the principle that, for example, for a chicken you have to calculate the cost of feed, labor, transportation, maintenance, etc., in the profit first, and then set a selling price. Thus, when the price of an item changes it must depend on objective and subjective conditions. It is not a case in which we change the prices to whatever we want and decrease the prices to whatever we please. Of course, before you get a kilogram of fish there are many things to consider, starting with the fish. When you talk about fish there has to be fishing, and in fishing there must be things like tools, gas, labor, transport, damage cost, etc., and in processing fermented fish we have to take into account salt, [word omitted], labor, [word omitted], taxes, profit, etc. These must be included in the cost of production.

You should review this to see if things are what I said. It is true that it is a domestic product, but many factors are involved. For example, how can we raise wages for workers if we do not have the money or if we have a deficit? It is like working all day and not having enough money to buy a kilogram of rice. If this is the case no one will want to produce. I want to give a final example. Suppose you grow vegetables. Before growing the vegetables you have to figure out the expenses from the time you put money into buying seeds, the cost of labor in digging the garden beds, cultivation, the cost of fertilizing, etc., and the amount of time for the vegetables to grow. Then you have to figure out the cost of production for one vegetable bed. When you know the principle then you can set the selling price. Whenever you trade you must make a profit. If it is the same as cost or if there is a loss the business will go bankrupt.

These are only some of the problems and some of the examples brought up for discussion. Please forgive my impolite [words] because they are too general, but I hope you understand. When I talked about price changes many times before, I emphasized economic principles more, and it was very difficult for the readers to understand.

Please forgive me if I have made any mistakes. I am not good at economics myself. Frankly speaking, it would be more appropriate for an economist or political economist to explain this matter. Please forgive me. Thank you.

9884/8309

CSO: 4206/63

LAOS

BRIEFS

VIENTIANE CAPITAL TAX RECEIPTS—Since early January 1985 the revenue cadres and government employees in Sisattanak District, Vientiane capital, all gave attention to their own specialized tasks with determination by collecting license taxes, profit taxes, salary taxes, enterprise taxes, rental property taxes, animal purchasing and meat sale taxes, vehicle taxes, parking fees, penalty taxes, and press taxes from 607 bases throughout Sisattanak District, for a total of 20,663,679 kip. They also worked to stop the smuggling of goods along the border 16 times with 40 laborers and seized a number of goods. They inspected boats that entered and left the port 426 times and mobilized private enterprises throughout the district to renew their registrations and to hand in applications to reopen their stores 3 times with 950 enterprise people attending. [Text] [Vientiane KHAOSAN PATHET LAO in Lao 20 Jan 86 pp 1, 4] 9884/8309

1984-85 TIN PRODUCTION--(KPL)--The campaign of the three solidarities and four offensives of the LPR Youth Union at the Lao tin mine factory has been carried out actively by considering tin production and geological surveys in 1984-1985 as objects of active emulation which are related to other mass organizations. During this period they worked in cooperation with trade unions and the Lao women's associations and produced 20 tons of the over 500 tons of tin produced by the factory. They also did contract work in other areas, for example, they successfully built one house for workers and one office building, cut 100 cubic meters of firewood for baking tin, repaired 30 km of roads, repaired a steel bridge 20 meters long, constructed storage areas, and earned 116,500 kip. They also took part in the factory security forces very well. [Excerpt] [Vientiane KHAOSAN PATHET LAO in Lao 6 Jan 86 pp A6, 7] 9884/8309

CSO: 4206/63

MALAYSIA

MAHATHIR COMMENTS ON MUSA HITAM RESIGNATION

BK011229 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir said that the 2-M [Mahathir--Musa] administration is still workable should Datuk Musa Hitam be willing to withdraw his resignation letter. He said there was always room for him to work with everybody. He added that he had never allowed his personal feelings to intrude in his work. The prime minister said this to newsmen after opening the Wisma Syarikat Permodalan Kebangsaan [National Investment Company] building in Kuala Lumpur.

He reiterated that Datuk Musa is still a member of the cabinet until the 16th of this month and that as such he did not have to make any decision yet. Asked on reports that Datuk Musa had [word indistinct] being accused of involvement in a move to topple him, the prime minister said that Datuk Musa had the right to say anything. He said that Datuk Musa had misunderstood his positive reply regarding the allegation that Datuk Musa was involved in the plot. Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir said if he thought that Datuk Musa was involved in the plot, he would not have agreed for the 4-man team to see him. The team, comprising UMNO [United Malays National Organization] Vice President Amar Haji Wan Mokhtar Ahmad, UMNO deputy youth leader Datuk Sri Najib Abdul Razak, and two Supreme Council members, Datuk Sri Ramli Ngah Talib and Datuk Abdul Ahmad, were appointed at the party Supreme Council meeting last night to discuss the resignation with Datuk Musa who is also UMNO deputy president.

Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir said he was confident about the outcome of the delegation's meeting with Datuk Musa. The deputy prime minister is currently in Mecca to perform the umrah [minor pilgrimage]. The prime minister said there would be no restriction on the delegation in this issue. He said they were free to do with what they want.

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CSO: 4200/768

MALAYSIA

MAHATHIR COMMENTS ON INTERRACIAL UNITY

BK021230 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 1155 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, March 2 (OANA-BERNAMA)--Prime Minister Dr Mahathir Mohamed said Sunday the unity that is evident in Malaysia has no equal in any other multiracial country.

This achievement had been the result of cooperation among the races through the political parties that first merged to form the alliance and later the Barisan Nasional (BN), he said.

"This success has not come about by accident but is the result of hard work by all the communities," he told a mammoth gathering of 15,000 members of the Malaysian Chinese Association (MCA), second largest component party of the ruling Barisan Nasional (National Front) coalition, at Stadium Negara (National Stadium) here to mark the party's 37th anniversary.

Dr Mahathir said that for this unity to be preserved it was vital that every community continued to work with determination and ensure that problems were overcome through talks.

He said interracial solidarity in Malaysia should become a model for other countries where there were multiracial populations.

He said that interracial unity was something many multiracial countries had found difficulty in promoting.

He said racial tension existed in countries said to be more advanced and democratic like France, West Germany and Britain, as had been reported by the Hong Kong-based ASIA WALL STREET JOURNAL.

He said an article which appeared in the paper reported that racial tension in France was over the French people's dissatisfaction with the presence of immigrant Arabs and in Germany over Turkish arrivals.

In Britain, it said, Pakistanis and Bangladeshis had become the subject of racial discrimination and even killings.

He was glad that such a situation did not exist in Malaysia, adding that every race had a rightful place in every field of endeavour.

"This is due to the fact that every community is represented in the government which in turn gives due attention to their views and requests," he said.

Mahathir said that through the parties representing the various communities every problem could be discussed jointly and calmly without any one community becoming emotional.

Dr Mahathir also spoke of the importance of racial unity in the government's efforts to plan and implement programmes aimed at offsetting the effects of the economic recession.

The national economy would recover through properly-planned programmes, he said.

Dr Mahathir said the successes the country had attained were due to the people's "common sense."

"Such an attitude will help us overcome obstacles and solve problems," he said.

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CSO: 4200/768

MALAYSIA

FOREIGN MINISTER HOPES FOR GOOD TIES WITH PHILIPPINES

BK031403 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 1350 GMT 3 Mar 86

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, March 3 (OANA-BERNAMA)--Foreign Minister Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen Monday expressed the hope that whatever issues and obstacles in the relationship between Malaysia and the Philippines will be removed by the Aquino administration.

Speaking to reporters after signing the condolence book on the death of Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme at the Swedish ambassador's residence here, he said relations between the two countries had been good and reiterated Malaysia's stand to further enhance the cordial ties.

Tengku Rithauddeen was commenting on news agency reports Monday quoting Philippine Prime Minister Salvador Laurel as saying that the new government would face the Sabah claim "frontally" and that the problem "would be resolved under this administration."

Laurel is also foreign minister and vice-president of the week-old Aquino government.

Tengku Rithauddeen said: "I hope whatever issues and obstacles in enhancing the relationship between the two countries will be removed by the new (Philippine) government."

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CSO: 4200/768

MALAYSIA

BRIEFS

BRITISH TRADE MISSION ARRIVES--A 17-man British trade mission has arrived in Kuala Lumpur to promote a wide range of products including aircraft spares and computerized automatic brush-machines. The leader of the mission, Mr Schulz, said in a news conference at the British High Commission in the capital the team is also interested to look for joint venture partners for some of the products. The mission, which is from the South Bucks and East Berks Chamber of Commerce and Industry, represents about 2,000 companies of various industries. They visited Indonesia and Singapore before arriving in Malaysia last night. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0800 GMT 27 Feb 86 BK] /6091

CSO: 4200/768

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

MELBOURNE REPORTS BUDGET INTERVIEW WITH WINGTI

BK041141 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0810 GMT 4 Mar 86

[From the "International Report" moderated by (Bernadette Skues)]

[Excerpt] In Papua New Guinea the 3-month-old government of Prime Minister Pias Wingti has handed down a budget with an emphasis on small government and private sector growth. The 1986 budget prepared by the deputy prime minister and finance minister, Sir Julius Chan, replaces the one rejected by parliament on the fall of the Somare government last November.

Trevor Watson reports from Port Moresby that one of the principal aims of the Chan document is to reduce the country's reliance on overseas borrowings.

[Begin recording] [Watson] Just 3 months ago, Sir Julius told parliament Papua New Guinea faced economic stagnation that threatened to impoverish its people. Since November, he continued, the Wingti government had been working on a new economic blueprint that would more adequately deal with the nation's entrenched problems. Those problems include an average zero growth rate since independence in 1975, a mounting foreign debt, and ever-increasing unemployment. The Chan budget represents the government's blueprint for a brighter economic future. It is based on reduced government spending, a smaller bureaucracy, and public investment in wealth-producing sectors of the economy. In the past, Sir Julius said, the ongoing cost of running the government was always considered before funds were allocated for new projects. We have looked at the wealth-producing and infrastructure sectors first. As a result this budget has given higher priority to such areas as agricultural expansion, forestry development, and tourism projects at the expense of law enforcement and government administration.

The government argues that Papua New Guinea's law and order problems will disappear as unemployment falls. The whole budget is \$1,348 million--40 million less than the Somare budget of last November. Australia's contribution will be about \$320 million or just over 23 percent of the total. The deficit of \$200 million will be financed by local and overseas borrowings.

However, the government was quick to emphasize its concern of Papua New Guinea's growing foreign debt and said it would borrow more than a \$100 million less than the Somare administration had planned for 1986. Nevertheless debt servicing will account for nearly 19 percent of the government's total expenditure. In summary, Prime Minister Wingti said he wanted to show the world that his government stood for efficiency and growth:

[Wingti] The major underlining philosophy of this budget is efficiency and performance by government, more resources to be [words indistinct] (?manpower), and financial resources into key economic sectors for economic growth in Papua New Guinea. With this in mind we look at our total borrowings from overseas in this budget. We have reduced borrowing from overseas by so many millions. It is a budget that is geared towards economic growth in Papua New Guinea.

[Watson] Could you be more specific? How is this budget going to stimulate economic growth?

[Wingti] In this budget, we have not imposed any major change particularly on personal income tax or company tax on our businesses in Papua New Guinea. That would mean that the private sector would have more money to spend. If we had imposed tax, it would have discouraged them. We have not done that. And at the same time we look at the total expenditure within the government. We have looked at total expenses and reallocated manpower and financial resources within positions of government into certain key sectors that will generate economic growth. We have done that.

[Watson] The sectors are?

[Wingti] These are the economic sectors that will include the Ministry of Primary Industry, Ministry of Minerals and Energy, the Ministry of Land, the Ministry of Trade and Industry, and Tourism.

These are the key economic ministries which the government has given [word indistinct] resources in this budget.

[Watson] And do you expect this direction to also signal to foreign investors that Papua New Guinea is a safe place to invest? Is that an important aspect of this budget?

[Wingti] Yes, we have given [changes thought]. This budget is giving very clear signals to particularly financial institutions where we deal a lot, like the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, that we have given a sense of direction and at the same time a sense of responsibility in economic management. We have done this by reduced total borrowings by cutting down expenditure, imposing less taxes on the people within the country so they would have more money to spend, mainly in private sector [word indistinct]. That is the direction we are giving now.

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CSO: 4200/765

PHILIPPINES

COUNTRY'S CHINESE BUSINESSMEN SUPPORT AQUINO

BK260834 Manila PNA in English 0812 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Text] Manila, Feb 26 (PNA)--The Federation of Filipino-Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FCCI) today expressed "unqualified support" to the new administration of President Corazon C. Aquino.

FCCI President Julio Tan told the PNA that the new government would again retain the trust and confidence of international financial institutions and enjoy the support of the community of nations although difficult times still lie ahead.

"We are going to rally our members to support the new government and help in the national recovery program," Tan said as he expressed the federation's unqualified support to President Aquino's administration.

But Tan said appropriate adjustments are necessary in the business sector, taking into consideration the new increased dollar-peso rate, increased prices of consumer goods and other external factors.

"Prices would go up a little but our federation would help stabilize supply and prices of consumer goods," he said.

Tan said the federation would propose that the new administration make a realistic review of the tax system to simplify tax collections.

He said the government should grant incentives to deserving sectors of industry, specially now that oil prices have continued to go down.

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CSO: 4200/761

PHILIPPINES

EMBASSY, CONSULATES IN U.S. TO CONTINUE DUTIES

BK280339 Manila PNA in English 0340 GMT 28 Feb 86

[Text] Washington, D.C., Feb. 28 (PNA)--The Philippine Embassy here and the consulates general in eight cities in the United States under the new administration of President Corazon Aquino will continue discharging their functions, Weherson T. Alvarez, chairman of the transition team, announced Wednesday [26 February].

Alvarez made this assurance following a series of meetings between his team and embassy and consulate officials that started Tuesday in the capital, New York, Chicago, San Francisco, Houston in Texas, Los Angeles, Honolulu, Seattle and Guam.

At the same time, he appealed to the various groups among the Filipino-American communities to cooperate in keeping the cooperative and smooth atmosphere that marked the transition.

In a well-attended first conference at the embassy following the transition conference with embassy officials headed by Charge d'Affaires Leonides T. Coday, Alvarez thanked the Filipinos and the Americans for their support.

The transition team includes former Congressman Raul Daza, Paul Aquino, Rey L. Peneda, King Rodrigo Lawyer Henry Tuazon and Charlie Avia as members and Steve Psinakis as adviser.

Alvarez singled out economic recovery as the first priority of the new administration adding that he and Paul Aquino have been meeting with several congressional leaders like Senators Paul Laxalt, Richard Lugar, Frank Murkowski, Robert Dole and Ted Kennedy and Representative Stephen Solarz to take up increased and stepped-up economic aid. He sounded a call for volunteers from among the Fil-American communities to help in the reconstruction of the country. "We will need computer experts, doctors, economists and all kinds of expertise," he said. "It will be a peace corps type of operation."

In reply to a question on political detainees, transition team member Daza said the president had made a campaign pledge that their release will be among her first official acts. It will be on a case-to-case basis to be decided by the Justice Ministry, he explained.

Earlier, in its meeting with embassy officials, the team assured them and the staff that career service will be respected and civil regulations followed. "We have asked them to continue discharging their functions and providing services to the general public until further orders from the home office," Alvarez said.

All day Tuesday, a euphoric Filipino-American community celebrated the change in the administration. They popped champagne in the heretofore sacrosanct office of the ambassador, unfurled a big yellow banner of the Ninoy Aquino movement, and sang patriotic songs in front of the embassy. They also had the run of the embassy, peeking into rooms and having their pictures taken inside the ambassador's office.

The embassy officials and the transition team welcomed the public into the embassy, as the State Department police looked on.

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CSO: 4200/761

18 March 1986

PHILIPPINES

TIMES JOURNAL URGES GIVING NEW GOVERNMENT TIME

HK041430 Manila TIMES JOURNAL in English 1 Mar 86 p 4

[Editorial: "Let's Give Her Time"]

[Text] It is rather lamentable that this early in the government of Mrs. Corazon C. Aquino, some opinion writers who are known to have been cuddly with the deposed president, have started sowing intrigues.

We received several calls yesterday deploring this.

We agree with their observation that the new government must be given a chance to correct a sad situation that many years of misrule had brought upon our country.

The callers were particularly agitated by the apparent efforts of Marcos' cronies in media who, unfortunately, are still allowed to peddle their vitriol, to drive a wedge between the forces of Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile and Gen. Fidel V. Ramos, on the one hand, and Mrs. Aquino's, on the other. While they believe these gentlemen and the President have already made clear their positions that they would work together for the good of the people, these intrigues might yet succeed in exacting their toll on the fledgling government's effort to reunify the people whom these very media cronies of the former administration had succeeded in polarizing.

The callers were also rankled by the undisguised efforts of these opinion writers to drive people to impatience. We can only hope that people will remember that it will take some time to solve the problems that the past administration has brought upon this country largely through the greed and corruption of the men who governed us as well as their hacks in media.

We also certainly hope that the people will not be influenced by whatever evil schemes some holdouts of the previous administration are planning to hatch.

The long dark nights that the people used their power to dislodge the previous regime should remain fresh in their minds so as not to become susceptible to the bitterness being sown by Marcos loyalists. The unity forged by the people with those who lead them now will ultimately enable us to prevail.

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CSO: 4200/761

PHILIPPINES

BULLETIN TODAY BACKS RELEASE OF POLITICAL DETAINEES

HK041438 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 1 Mar 86 p 6

[Editorial: "Political Detainees"]

[Text] The natural first step to national reconciliation is the release of the political detainees. The case of the detainees touches the core of a bloody conflict that has lasted for about a decade and a half. It has brought out the best and the worst in the Filipinos. It has stained the human rights record of the government.

If all the detainees are released, there will be reason to hope that many of those holdouts in the hills will rejoin the ranks of peaceful citizens. It has long been our view that reconciliation consists not in patching up the differences between political parties, which would be an impossible task, but in reconciling the rebels with the government, because rebellion is the most dangerous long-term threat to the society.

But we think the present program of the new administration to release the detainees is premised not only on the fact that unreasonable detention of people suspected to be subversives poses a danger to the state. Another powerful reason is simply human consideration. When a person is detained for many years despite the fact that no criminal charge is proved against him, his case provokes a reaction from people who put a premium on justice and compassion.

A person who has already been ordered released by the Supreme Court but is still detained by virtue of presidential orders cannot but be pitied by the public.

The problem of the political detainees is being dealt with decisively by the administration. It is inconceivable that the release of the detainees will strengthen the insurgency.

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CSO: 4200/761

PHILIPPINES

PHILIPPINES SUNDAY EXPRESS ON 'SCRAMBLE' FOR POSTS

HK041552 Manila PHILIPPINES SUNDAY EXPRESS in English 2 Mar 86 pp 1, 7

[Article by David C. Borje and Mel Parale]

[Text] A power struggle, highlighted by a scramble for government positions, is threatening a split between the two parties that catapulted President Aquino to power.

The apparent rift surfaced yesterday as the five-day-old Aquino administration failed for the third time to fill up vacant Cabinet slots even as leaders of UNIDO [United Nationalist Democratic Organization] complained against the predominance of LABAN [Laban ng Bayan--People's Struggle] members in the 13 positions in the Cabinet so far filled up.

The unfilled positions include the ministries of labor, social services, transportation and communication, and agrarian reform.

Battle lines seem to have been drawn between UNIDO, headed by Vice President Salvador Laurel, and PDP-LABAN [Pilipino Democratic Party-Lakas ng Bayan] led by Local Governments Minister Aquilino Pimentel and Jose Cojuangco, Jr., Mrs. Aquino's brother.

Reports that the President is having second thoughts on the appointment of Laurel as Prime Minister and is contemplating on replacing him with Pimentel is causing anger in the Laurel camp.

The scramble for local and national positions appeared most intense in the Labor Ministry. UNIDO is rooting for its secretary-general, Rene Espina, while PDP-LABAN has lined up a number of contenders, including MP Augusto Sanchez and labor specialist Ernesto "Boy" Herrera.

UNIDO leaders anchored their complaints on the fact that aside from Laurel, only two of their men--former Sen. Ernesto Maceda and former Trade Minister Luis Villafuerte--have made it to the Aquino Cabinet.

Sources said UNIDO leaders feel they deserve a bigger share in the Cabinet appointments, being the party that carried Mrs. Aquino in the Feb. 7 election.

Another issue awaiting resolution is the complaint of Muslim leaders about the failure to include any Muslim in the Cabinet.

The Muslim sector is batting for MP Omar Dianalan or anybody from the Alonto clan in Mindanao for a Cabinet post.

MP Homoboino Adaza, Mindanao Alliance president, has complained that "Mindanao has virtually been left out in the appointments although it comprises one-third of the nation's population."

Adaza noted that the appointment of Pimentel as local governments minister "cannot satisfy the proportional requirement for the region."

No details were given on a closed-door Cabinet meeting to resolve the growing dissension in the new government.

Sources said Mrs. Aquino was "grimly eager" to resolve the stalemate because time is running out." [quotation marks as published]

In her campaign, Mrs. Aquino had promised to "produce results" within her first 100 days in office.

The appointments by Pimentel of Bren Guiao as governor of Pampanga and Jejomar Binay as officer-in-charge of Makati have also been criticized in certain quarters.

Former Minister of State for Local Government Antonio R. Tupaz cited a provision of the Election Code that "local incumbent officials whose tenure of office shall expire on March 3, 1986, shall hold office until June 30, 1986 or until their successors shall have been elected and qualified."

Tupaz, a ranking KBL member and former interim Batasan member, questioned as "unlawful and without legal basis the appointments of local executives" made by Pimentel.

Former Assemblyman Vicente D. Millora, who is executive vice president of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines, said "there are clear indications to disregard the law for political expediency..."

In a wire to Chief Justice Ramon C. Aquino, Millora said members of the Supreme Court should not resign, the high court being "the last bulwark of rule of law, justice, freedom and democracy."

As this developed, an early proclamation by the Batasan of President Aquino to hasten the return to political normalcy was urged yesterday by several members of Parliament in the face of the current political anxieties.

MP Renato L. Cayetano (KBL, NCR [National Capital Region]) said the Batasan should proclaim Mrs. Aquino and confirm her choice of prime minister and deputy prime minister "within the soonest possible time."

MP Arturo V. Barbero (KBL, Abra) appealed to his KBL colleagues and members of the opposition to "heed the urgent invitation of the new President for firmness and compassion, for peace and for healing."

Other KBL solons also expressed the same sentiments, saying that all legal niceties should be set aside to pave the way for an early and smooth transition from the so-called revolutionary government to a constitutional government.

KBL leaders, including members of the Batasan will meet tomorrow at the Batasan office of Speaker Nicanor E. Yniguez to reorganize the party.

The KBL caucus is also expected to define the party's role under the Aquino administration.

Meanwhile, Tourism Minister Jose Antonio Gonzalez appealed to everyone for cooperation "to project the true image of the new Filipino."

Gonzalez said the Philippines has long been doubted for its potential in the tourism industry and expressed the hope "to achieve this true potential into a reality."

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CSO: 4200/761

PHILIPPINES

BAYAN CHAIRMAN ON 'PEOPLE'S VICTORY'

HK041415 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 3 Mar 86 p 5

[Text] Former Senator Lorenzo S. Tanada, chairman of the Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (Bayan) [New People's Alliance] called on the Fili-people to recognize their "power to take over and decide events when the moment calls for it."

Tanada, in a statement, also urged the administration of President Corazon Aquino to remember that the events which transpired was a "people's victory."

He noted that a majority of the Filipino people remain deprived of the most basic human needs. "It is that welfare which Mr. Marcos ignored through his 20 years of power and which the new government to be true to its policies and program cannot afford to disregard or neglect," he said.

Tanada's statement follows:

"The people have won their victory. This is a proud moment. It may yet be recorded as one of the most glorious in the history of our country. Many groups and individuals have greatly contributed towards this victory and for this, the nation is grateful. But ultimately, yesterday's victory was the people's victory!

"This we must not forget. They have shown they have it in their power to take over and decide events when the moment calls for it. Some are quick to say this was a triumph of democracy in the Philippines. That must be clarified. Another kind of democracy has triumphed. Not the customary one for that failed on February 7th, but a more direct, participatory, Greek-style democracy whose efficacy reached the extreme of saving soldiers from soldiers and which in the end overcame a deeply entrenched regime with all the formidable forces at its command.

"This people's victory too, the new leadership must also never forget. Sovereignty and ultimate power reside in the people, and the people are not one segment or class or a few interests, much less of course any foreign government or people, however mighty and powerful. The people are all of us whenever this is possible, but when it is not, it is the majority in a democracy whose welfare ultimately must prevail.

"Under present conditions in the Philippines that majority is the vast 70 and 80 percent of us who continue to be deprived after 80 years of a so-called free society, not only of the most essential material goods but of even the opportunity, nay the reasonable hope, of substantially improving their lot as befits God's children. It is that welfare which Mr. Marcos ignored through his 20 years of power and which the new government to be true to its policies and program cannot afford to disregard or neglect."

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CSO: 4200/761

PHILIPPINES

ENRILE CONGRATULATED FOR REBELLION 'COURAGE'

HK040733 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 3 Mar 86 p 14

[Text] Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile yesterday received congratulatory messages from the prime minister of Singapore and the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the U.S. Armed Forces for his role in last week's popular rebellion.

Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew expressed his "admiration for this act of patriotism and courage," referring to the stand Enrile and Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Fidel V. Ramos took on Feb. 22 which culminated in installing the popularly elected Mrs. Corazon C. Aquino as President.

Admiral William J. Crowe, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, also told Enrile: "I salute the achievement of the Philippine people and your role in bringing the difficult events to a close with compassion and dignity."

Enrile, together with Ramos, led a small group of reform-minded military officers and soldiers in a rebellion joined by millions of Filipinos from a cross-section of society. After four days which saw military officers and men defecting to the rebel camp, Marcos fled the country for Hawaii.

Singapore's prime minister said in a letter dated Feb. 27: "I watched you, Ramos and your small, but brave force of men with awe and apprehension. You knew the risk."

"The crisis was high drama," he said, adding that "you have changed the course of history."

Crowe also told Enrile: "The peaceful forces of democracy have opened a new chapter in the history of your country. As the servant of a free people, I have been truly inspired by your determined effort to vindicate the principles of popular sovereignty and the rule of law."

"My thoughts are with you as the new government turns to the task of national reconciliation and restoration of capabilities to deal with the persistent communist insurgent threats. Your role will be key," Crowe added.

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CSO: 4200/761

PHILIPPINES

COLUMNIST SCORES CRITICS OF NEW REGIME

HK050346 Manila METRO MANILA TIMES in English 3 May 86 p 4

["Passing Through" column by Emilio H. Serrano: "Too Early for Some Things; Too Late for Others"]

[Excerpt] It's silly right now to begin criticizing the Cory Aquino administration when she and her newly-appointed cabinet members are just starting. But the loud, continuous and visible (on TV yet) sour-graping of Opposition men who found themselves untouched by the magic wand of appointment, whether the wand was wielded by Cory, Doy or the military, should stop now or people's fears will be confirmed that all they wanted when they put this country through this long, narrowing, nightmarish week was not good government but good grabbing.

Orly Mercado, however, came off smelling better than the others who started weeping unashamedly after being bypassed by Cory Aquino for her cabinet. On TV, he said it was below his dignity to scramble for a position, saying he would give Cory a free hand in the selection of men and women to help her run the affairs of this country. Orly, how nice that you can be humble at least. It wasn't difficult, was it?

Now it's official. No local elections this year, according to Local Governments head Nene Pimentel. After their terms expire late next month, all local government officials, from governors to mayors and vice mayors will give way to political appointees of Malacanang. The question, apre, [PAL] now is: /Is this democratic and fair?/ [passage within slantlines published in italics]

A good number of local officials should have been booted out long ago but many of them continue to enjoy the trust and confidence of their constituents. They were elected into office and today, they have a right to run for reelection. Also, our people should not be deprived of their right to choose the local government officials through the ballot. Will these rights now be suspended arbitrarily by the new government?

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CSO: 4200/761

PHILIPPINES

PAPER TO GIVE AQUINO GOVERNMENT '120 DAYS OF PEACE'

HK041613 Manila METRO MANILA TIMES in English 3 Mar 86 p 4

[Editorial: "The First One Hundred Days"]

[Text] It has been a tradition here and elsewhere where presidential elections are held, that a new president has a hundred days during which critics and the media alike keep quiet. Because the predecessor of the newly installed Aquino government had been in power for almost one generation, it will be the policy of this space to give instead this administration one hundred and twenty days of peace.

Such a period, however, will be subject to occasional reminders or a few pieces of constructive advice. Gross mistakes in administration, however, will still be subject to comment.

May we offer our initial suggestions?

During these few days or months the government will undoubtedly have its hands full with the reorganization of public administration. Offices will be changed, merged or abolished, personnel will be retired, retrenched or absorbed by other agencies. But the entire civil service will be used to fire the engine of the bureaucracy.

The government and its bureaucracy must now be geared towards what one may consider its most important function. This is the solution to the problems of national development and distributive equity.

To begin with, perhaps the government should now define what is meant by poverty line.

This can be done through a system of monitoring poverty hand in hand with sustained economic growth. Once poverty line is defined, targets should be made so as to set a definite period when poverty can be reduced to a minimum.

As many development economists are now saying, the development of the nation will ultimately depend on how well it is able to uplift the poor. There should now be a target for minimizing poverty. All sectors, both public and private business, should be exhorted to work towards the attainment of this

very important goal. This should be the main thrust of the new government's economic development programs.

Policies get bogged down by implementation, delaying development. It is strongly suggested, therefore, that a dynamic institutional mechanism, whether NEDA [National Economic Development Authority] or any other agency, should be made responsible to carry out the objectives of equity and growth. The expectations of the poor remain great.

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CSO: 4200/761

PHILIPPINES

EXILED MNLF LEADER MAY RETURN IF AUTONOMY GRANTED

HK040613 Hong Kong AFP in English 0544 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Manila, March 4 (AFP)--Moslem rebel leader Nur Misuari plans to return to the war-torn Philippine island of Mindanao if the Aquino government grants autonomy for his people, his former aide said Tuesday.

Paredes Alih told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that he had been informed by Middle East-based Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF] commanders that their exiled chairman was planning to return to Mindanao if the new government granted them autonomy.

Mr Alih, a rebel returnee who said he was a former close aide of Mr Misuari, said the "sincerity" of President Corazon Aquino's new government might convince Mr Misuari to abandon their secessionist campaign.

Mr Alih noted that Mr Misuari, although campaigning for Moslem secession, had forged a ceasefire agreement with ousted President Ferdinand Marcos's government in Tripoli in 1976 in return for autonomy in 13 Moslem areas in the south of the country.

The Tripoli Agreement failed after both camps accused each other of violations of the treaty. Conservative estimates put the death toll in the MNLF campaign at more than 60,000 civilians, rebels and soldiers in the past 15 years.

MNLF sources said Mr Misuari had set up the MNLF's headquarters in Tripoli.

Mr Alih, president of the 12,000-strong Association of Rebel Returnees of Mindanao and Sulu (ARMS), said they were recommending that Mrs Aquino appointed [as received] Mr Misuari as head of a Moslem autonomous government.

ARMS had earlier pledged support for Mrs Aquino and offered to help negotiate with Mr Misuari for a "peaceful settlement" of the Moslem insurgency problem in the south, he said.

There are about five million Moslems among the 54 million Philippine population. An estimated 12,000 Moslem insurgents are fighting for autonomy in the south. Mrs Aquino had pledged greater autonomy for the Moslem-dominated regions in the south before coming to power a week ago.

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CSO: 4200/761

PHILIPPINES

KBL CAUCUS AGREES TO COOPERATE WITH AQUINO

BK040635 Manila PNA in English 0627 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Manila, March 4 (PNA)--The New Society Movement founded by deposed President Ferdinand Marcos has agreed to cooperate with President Corazon Aquino's administration.

The agreement was made during a caucus Monday attended by political leaders and members of parliament identified with the Marcos administration.

"The Aquino government is today uncontested and has won acceptance of the nation," according to former Labor Minister Blas F. Ople. He said: "There is no government in existence except the Aquino government."

The national assembly, he added, can now proceed legally to confirm this fact.

"If Mrs Aquino seeks legitimacy, she is entitled to it," Ople, also a member of parliament, added.

Ople was referring to moves in the national assembly to nullify its previous proclamation of Marcos as president and Arturo Tolentino as vice president.

The Marcos movement, however, remained the majority party in the parliament with 123 of the 180 members.

In pledging support to the Aquino administration, the former leaders of Mr Marcos asked the president to be fair in dealing with local officials.

They asked that local officials, whose term expired March 3, be allowed to continue holding office until their successors are elected.

President Aquino's local government minister, Aquilino Pimental Jr, had ordered local elective officials to resign to be replaced by those appointed by the new government.

But officials protested, saying they are entitled to remain until succeeded by those elected in an election supposed to be held in May this year.

Aquino has decided not to call any local election this year in view of the country's financial dislocation.

PHILIPPINES

FORMER DETAINEE: MANILA FACTIONS HOLDING SISON AS LEVERAGE

HK041448 Hong Kong AFP in English 1437 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Manila, March 4 (AFP)--A political prisoner released Tuesday said some factions in the Corazon Aquino government wanted to hold on to alleged Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) founder Jose Maria Sison as a "leverage for future negotiations."

Alan Jazmines, a 38-year-old businessman arrested in 1982 as the alleged finance officer of the CPP, said in an interview with AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that he thought "some elements of the Aquino government were sincere."

But he said he believed a difference of opinion existed among various government factions and that some wanted to hold on to Mr. Sison as a bargaining tool.

Mrs. Aquino has said she wants a ceasefire with the New People's Army (NPA), the military arm of the CPP, in the hope of holding negotiations.

Her spokesman, Rene Saguisag, has said that a special five-member committee would meet Wednesday to discuss the cases of Mr. Sison and three other allegedly ranking communists under detention.

He said the four were excluded from a general order to release almost 500 political prisoners.

Mr. Jazmines, who was released with former Roman Catholic Priest Victor Geraldo and Noel Etabag, said he thought a ceasefire was a "good idea" that should be welcomed by both sides, but that he could not speak for the NPA.

He said that in his own case he would like to "see what I can do to pursue nationalist and democratic aspirations of the people within the legal framework."

Mr. Geraldo, 38, was arrested in March 1982 and sentenced to 12 to 20 years in prison on subversion charges. He was said to be a member of the Christians for National Liberation, an underground group comprising the National Democratic Front, which also groups the communist New People's Army.

Mr. Etabag, 36, was arrested in February 1982 on subversion charges. He is an alleged top leader of the CPP.

PHILIPPINES

BRIEFS

CENTRAL BANK SUPPORTS NATIONAL BANK--Central Bank Governor Jose Fernandez Jr said the Central Bank will give full financial support to the Philippine National Bank [PNB]. Fernandez issued the statement to dismiss reports that PNB is one of the government entities that will face closure due to its financial problems. Fernandez said the Central Bank is ready to assist the PNB with whatever financial problems it encounters. Fernandez also called on the media to verify news reports on the financial system in order to allay public concern over the stability of the banking system. [Text] [Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 1000 GMT 28 Feb 86 HK] /8918

DETAINED MAYOR RETURNS TO LAOAG--In Laoag City, Mayor Rodolfo Farinas made a personal appearance to dismiss reports that he had been arrested and is being detained in Camp Crame, Quezon City. Farinas seemed unaffected by the unfavorable publicity of the past 2 days when he appeared at the KBL party meeting held in the office of former Governor Ferdinand Marcos Jr at noon today. The meeting called by acting Governor Roque Ablan Jr and assemblyman Antonio Raquia was attended by some 300 provincial, city and Barangay officials. Acting Mayor Manuel Santos, sworn in yesterday to replace the missing Farinas, will turn the reins over to Farinas because the latter has demonstrated his physical capability to take charge of the city government. Farinas said his return to Laoag proves that he has been cleared of charges of attempted assassination against Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile. [Text] [Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 1000 GMT 28 Feb 86 HK] /8918

MERIT SYSTEM FOR GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT--The various offices and agencies of the government will be employing the merit system in its dealings with personnel. This was emphasized during a television interview yesterday by MP Luis Villafuerta, head of the presidential Commission on Government Reorganization. He said the work of reorganizing the government may take some 2 months but he gave assurances that government agencies will continue to operate. [Begin Villafuerta recording in English] The main consideration here is that we must uphold the merit system in government and the security of tenure, but at the same time--and this I wish to underscore--the government, through the civil service, cannot be allowed to become a pension house for sinecures. Those who can stay with qualification and merit must be respected. But those who have been brought in, either by cronies or through nepotism, must either upgrade their own qualifications or look for jobs elsewhere. But in the meantime we wish to ask everybody to stay put in place. [End recording] [Text] [Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan [Radio of the Nation] in Tagalog 2230 GMT 27 Feb 86 HK] /8918

CSO: 4211/31

SINGAPORE

MEASURES PLANNED TO STOP PROPERTY MARKET SLIDE

HK040501 Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST (BUSINESS NEWS supplement) in English 4 Mar 86 p 1

[Report from Singapore by Christopher Chen]

[Text] A committee appointed by the Singapore Government to examine the island's flagging property sector has recommended sweeping reforms, including tax incentives and deregulation on foreign ownership.

Unfettered development in all sectors of the Singapore property market in recent years has led to sharply declining occupancy and rental levels, and drastic measures are needed to avert a total collapse, according to the Property Market Consultative Committee.

Large-scale failure in the Singapore property market would have calamitous consequences for the country's financial sector, which is holding property loans totalling about S\$9.5 billion (about HK\$35 billion).

Chaired by Dr Toh Peng Kiat, the consultative committee was formed in September, comprising representatives from the Government, financial and corporate sectors, and has made about a hundred recommendations.

Among these are the withdrawal of Government competition, a freeze on new development, suspension of Government land sales and conversion of excess supply to institutional and recreational use.

On the demand side, the body advised a more relaxed attitude to foreign property ownership--including specific incentives--tax breaks for property investment, cost cuts and better marketing.

The panel said tax incentives could allow interest on mortgage loans for owner-occupied homes to be deducted from personal income tax and provide depreciation allowances for offices, shops and hotels.

As an incentive to foreign investment, the requisite official approval of non-Singaporean investment in residential buildings below six storeys should be waived, the report suggested, while two-year multiple entry visas should be offered to owners of property worth more than S\$500,000.

Another suggestion was the establishment of a property investment trust, along the lines of the U.S. example, with the Government contributing S\$50 million to \$100 million as the initial issued capital.

Average occupancy in Singapore's key office market slumped from 95.5 per cent in September 1980 to 83.3 per cent last September, with vacant space in this segment rising alarmingly to 453,000 sq m from 80,000 sq m.

Underscoring Singapore's property glut are statistics showing that relative to population, the island state has 1.4 times more office space than Hong Kong, 1.6 times the factory space, 2.5 times the warehouse space and 2.2 times the hotel volume of Hong Kong.

Since the peak in 1981, the value of office accommodation has dropped by 60 per cent, while prices for commercial and factory space have declined by about 50 per cent and residential values by about 20 per cent.

Dr Toh warned that inaction could push the Singapore property market into collapse, and he told of widespread concern about rising supply in all segments of the market.

An interim 30 per cent rebate, valid from July 1985 to end-1986, should become a property tax rate cut and the property tax rate should be cut to 15 per cent from 23 per cent after July 1 this year, falling to 12 per cent in the next two years, he said.

Four hypothetical scenarios for the property market by 1990 were sketched by Dr Toh's group:

--Supply will equal only those projects already begun, while demand for 1986 to 1990 will be at the average annual rate from 1981 to 1985.

--Supply equals all approved projects completed, while demand averages the 1981 to 1985 annual rate.

--Supply equals projects already commenced, while demand is half the 1981 to 1985 average.

--Supply equals all approved projects completed, while demand averages half that of 1981 to 1985.

On none of the four prognoses is the outlook optimistic without concerted action to influence supply or demand factors, and prospects for factories, warehouses and hotels are particularly bleak.

If the fourth, and most pessimistic, set of factors materialises, it suggests hotel occupancy as low as 46.8 per cent by 1990.

The total number of available hotel rooms last September was 19,450, up 50 per cent from 12,756 five years earlier, and the inordinate surge in new supply was not accompanied by a concomitant increase in tourist arrivals,

resulting in a slide of 21 percentage points in occupancy to 65 per cent over the period.

Singapore's hotel tariffs are now among the lowest in the region--up to 40 per cent below Hong Kong and Seoul, up to 35 per cent below Tokyo and more than 20 per cent below average rates in Taipei.

A comparison of gross office rentals shows that at US\$318 a square metre Singapore lags Hong Kong's US\$420, San Francisco's \$457, New York's \$542-\$729, Tokyo's \$768 and London's \$617 to \$881.

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CSO: 4200/769

THAILAND

COLUMNIST ON SOVIET VIEW OF PHILIPPINE FALLOUT

BK261105 Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 25 Feb 86 p 3

[Column by Hoenfa Kindin: "From the Soviet Union to Midway"]

[Text] KHAOSAN SOVIET, the news bulletin of the Soviet Embassy, carries an analysis on the political situation in the Philippines. It is worthwhile knowing where they stand as it is all part of the propaganda war between the two superpowers, and especially as the Soviet Union is watching the carrier "Midway" and its support ships currently moored in Phatthaya Bay.

KHAOSAN SOVIET does not mention the rigging of the election by Marcos, but says that the United States is following the situation in the Philippines because of U.S. interests in the country. The course of action taken by the United States will be governed by U.S. interests rather than the state of democracy in the Philippines.

Washington is watching developments in the Philippines because of the huge military bases it has there. No matter what the outcome of the election, Washington cannot lose. If Marcos does not listen to its advice, America will replace him with a more docile leader.

Of the U.S. pressure on President Marcos, KHAOSAN SOVIET lists them as follows:

First, the United States pressured the Philippines into holding the election. Second, prior to the elections the United States sent a presidential envoy to hand a letter to Marcos. The Manila press called it the toughest document the United States had ever sent to one of its allies. Third, the United States announced cuts in several loan projects to the Philippine Government. The U.S. Congress also decided to withhold financial assistance to nongovernmental organizations in the Philippines. This was interpreted as aimed at diverting funds to support the opposition in that country. Fourth, as the election day approached, the United States sent the aircraft carrier "Midway," with dozens of aircraft and helicopters and thousands of soldiers on board, escorted by two nuclear submarines, to the Philippines.

KHAOSAN SOVIET citing "latest reports," says that American units are regularly arriving in the Philippines. "Those units include the Green Berets which have been deployed in several developing countries for special operations by the Pentagon and the CIA," the Soviet news bulletin says.

Regarding Thailand, the bulletin says that Washington is forcing Thailand into taking part in war games, sea patrols, and other activities. All this is for the purpose of setting up military bases, war depots, and a rapid deployment task force in Thailand. In short, KHAOSAN SOVIET suggests that the United States has been exploiting the political conflicts in the Philippines as a pretext for a U.S. military buildup, and that the United States wants the ASEAN bloc to restructure the armed forces system with strong U.S. participation.

Finally, the Soviet news bulletin expresses views similar to those of the Philippine papers which are the mouthpiece of Marcos, saying that the role played by Habib, the U.S. President's special envoy, has worsened the situation in the Philippines. The Soviet bulletin calls all this "the third element" in the Philippines' election.

Usually I do not believe what the Soviet news bulletin says. The bulletins are regularly distributed to all local newspapers, but after reading them I make no comment as they contain only propaganda with huge exaggerations--which is normal for the two superpowers. This time, however, we should pay a little more attention as what is going on in the Philippines is clear to our eyes. Marcos has to leave the country and live in exile. What the United States can provide him as the last help is shelter.

Who will be the next leader of the Philippines? What will happen next in this region, including Thailand itself? Is the Soviet bulletin's prediction about the impact on the region true--especially concerning the U.S. bases and reports about the reopening of U.S. bases in Thailand? This is what the Thai people must follow closely.

It made me unhappy when I saw the picture of our prime minister touring the "Midway" last week.

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CSO: 4207/176

THAILAND

EDITORIALS VIEW DOWNFALL OF PRESIDENT MARCOS

BK271200 [Editorial Report] Three Thai-language Bangkok dailies--THAI RAT, MATICHON, and SIAM RAT--on 26 and 27 February carry editorials on the downfall of President Marcos of the Philippines.

THAI RAT's 600-word page 3 editorial on 26 February entitled "ASEAN Stand" refers to the statement issued by five ASEAN members on 23 February calling for a peaceful settlement of the political problem in the Philippines without bloodshed. Thai RAT's editorial says what happened in the Philippines shows a growing trend toward democracy in Asian countries. The Philippine people made it clear they did not want the old regime of Marcos. Democracy would win or lose depending on whether the leadership of that country would listen to the will of the people or insist on adhering to the principle of might is right.

"Regardless of whether Marcos would heed the call from the five ASEAN members for a peaceful settlement without bloodshed, it is clear that public opinion in the Philippines wanted a government change and democracy. The ASEAN stand should be in line with the popular demand in that country," THAI RAT says.

MATICHON's 800-word page 6 editorial on 26 February entitled "The U.S. role in the Philippine Crisis" recalls how the Marcos government became a close ally of the United States. Marcos' staunch anticommunist stand and agreement to allow U.S. bases in his country were sufficient for the United States which turned a deaf ear to popular discontent against his dictatorial rule. It was only when the Marcos government became really weakened and seriously threatened by the opposition that the U.S. Government decided to replace him with a stronger leader.

"Marcos' fate is no different from that of other close U.S. allies. He can survive so long as he continues to serve U.S. interests. When he is no longer needed, he can get asylum in the United States or in other allied countries. If he resists the order, he would risk losing his head, the fate Ngo Dinh Diem suffered," MATICHON says. In conclusion, MATICHON says the arrival of Aquino would be more favorable for the image of the United States. Yet, despite the U.S. desire to play a bigger role in safeguarding its interests in the Philippines, it is, from now on, the will and decision of the entire Philippine people which will direct the course of the nation.

MATICHON's 800-word page 6 editorial on 27 February entitled "The Common Aspiration of the Philippine People" says that the overly long dictatorship by Marcos is responsible for his downfall. The popular discontent against his regime became strong especially after the assassination of the opposition leader at Manila Airport in August 1983. The worsening situation over the past 2 years prompted the United States to pressure him into calling an election. Alas, the Marcos regime had become rotten to the point of rigging the election. This brought it both domestic and foreign condemnation. "The collapse of the Marcos regime was due to the stand adopted by the international community and, by the United States, the dictatorial nature of the Marcos regime, and finally and most importantly by the common aspiration of the Philippine people to topple dictatorship and establish a genuine democracy in their country," the editorial says.

SIAM RAT's 600-word page 3 editorial on 27 February entitled "A Lesson from the Philippines" says that leaders in Thailand should take note of what happened in the Philippines. The Philippine president's downfall was caused by three factors: his long dictatorial rule, his indifference to the people's aspiration highlighted by his rigging of the election, and his entourage of corrupt followers. "Present Thai leaders should draw a lesson from what happened there and rule the country fairly otherwise they will bring misfortune on themselves," the paper concludes.

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CSO: 4207/176

THAILAND

ARMY RADIO ON SRV BORDER VIOLATIONS

BK011510 Bangkok First Army Division Radio in Thai 2300 GMT 27 Feb 86

["Sayamanusati" Program]

[Text] It is reported that on 23 February, Vietnamese troops fired about 50 artillery shells into Thai territory, wounding villagers and damaging their houses, schools, and public health stations. Government officials, civilians, policemen, and soldiers as well as a Red Cross team traveled to visit the villagers in Ban Non Sung upon whom Vietnamese soldiers had fired their artillery. Investigations show that Vietnam deliberately fired the shells at the homes of the villagers. Evidence shows that the shells landed all around the village. Furthermore they also discovered two unexploded shells--a 125 mm artillery shell in a field and a 122 shell beside a road. The road leading to the village was damaged by the shelling. While the group was visiting with villagers and looking at places damaged by the shelling, Vietnamese soldiers fired two artillery shells onto Thai soil, causing everyone including the newspaper and television reporters to flee in panic for shelter. After that, the deputy commander of the Suranari Force ordered five artillery rounds be fired in response forcing side to stop shelling. When the situation calmed down, the group continued to visit villagers whose homes had been damaged by the shelling and who had been forced to live at Ban Chiang Num. The provincial Red Cross presented goods to them to help relieve their plight temporarily.

According to border reports, Vietnam deployed 4 battalions from the 315th Division at O Bok Pas, about 8 km from Ban Non Sung. The force includes elements of the 733d Artillery unit with 122 mm and 125 mm Howitzers and 66 mm mortars. Vietnam also sent about 20,000 soldiers with a large number of artillery pieces from the 307th Division of the Vietnamese-Heng Samrin forces to Anma Hill.

It is reported that the situation along the border in Aranyaprathet is quiet. Fighting is being carried out deeper inside Cambodia. Meanwhile, 12 Heng Samrin troops fled from (Phum Lamai) base at the foot of Phnum Malai Mountain and surrendered to authorities of the 903d Task Force Unit of the Burapha Border Force at Ban Non Khilek, Aranyaprathet District of Prachin Buri. According to interrogations, they fled from the 94th Battalion of the 6th Division because they were tired of fighting and could no longer tolerate the malaria and stomach diseases. They could not get treated for their stomach

troubles. Another reason they defected was the logistics difficulties in transporting supplies because of harassment by resistance forces. Therefore, they decided to disarm themselves and surrender to Burapha Border Force authorities.

Regarding the situation along the Thai-Lao border, it is reported that during the period from 22 January to 21 February Laos sent soldiers and weapons from Paklai District to strengthen the force confronting Thai troops in Ban Mai opposite Ban Khok Subdistrict of Uttaradit Province. As for the situation at Pua District of Nan Province, Lao troops from (Phou Toui) Camp in Hongsa Village continued to send patrol units to gather news about movements of the Thai side and resistance forces.

Dear listeners, all these reports show that both Laos and Cambodia are still carrying out activities designed to destroy the peace and disturb Thai people living along the border. In particular, Vietnam has repeatedly damaged property and inflicted casualties on Thai people along the Thai-Cambodian border by frequently firing artillery rounds into Thai territory. Many Thai wonder why we never go on the offensive and smash the enemy. In response, Supreme Commander and Army Commander in Chief Gen Athit Kamlang-ek has said many times that Thailand's policy is to deal with such problems in a peaceful manner. We never want to solve problems by going to war with these countries. Thailand has always been compelled to use restraint in its approach.

However, we have never become slack in our efforts to defend our national sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity, and to provide good security for our people living along the border. We have returned fire immediately in cases in which Vietnamese-backed Heng Samrin forces have fired into our territory. We began with warning shots. If they do not stop, we fire back with the same firepower. In cases of border intrusions by hostile soldiers, we have pushed them out. When they have resisted our operation, we have intensified our reprisal operations, inflicting on them considerable casualties. We must guard against falling prey to Vietnamese ploys. We must always keep in mind that Vietnam is crooked, like a fox. Vietnam is like a trapped fox, wanting to see others caught in the same trap. Vietnam is now in a quagmire of a protracted war and an impoverished economy. Its people are victims of starvation. All Vietnam has gotten from its big brother superpower is military help--all kinds of weapons and war material that keep Vietnam fighting forever.

In Thailand, the people are generally earning their livings peacefully. Those affected by the fighting are the border people, and the responsible authorities are doing their best to provide protection [for] them. Border incidents are inevitable since Vietnam is deliberately harassing us. We must understand Vietnam's motive--Vietnam is trying to pull Thailand into a war cycle, trying to provoke us into becoming a party to that war so that we will have the same problems and miseries Vietnam has. This is the reason for Vietnam's continuous harassment firing into our territory. It wants us to lose our temper and make war, too. Alas, we are fully aware of Vietnam's wicked nature. So we never lose our temper lose our temper and get involved in the fighting. What we do is fire back at them whenever they fire at us, pushing them out if they cross the border; but we will never fall in Vietnam's trap. We will always maintain our endurance and restraint.

Please be assured, listeners, that Vietnam cannot threaten us with invasion as long as there is no decisive victory in sight for Vietnam in Cambodia. The longer it drags on, the weaker Vietnam will become, economically and militarily. Its economy is deteriorating with every passing day. In Thailand, although we are not at war, we still have economic problems. So think of Vietnam, which has been waging a long and protracted war. Imagine how bad a shape its economy must be in. How can Vietnam win a decisive victory when we see its soldiers continuously fleeing into Thailand, having lost their fighting spirit?

In conclusion, Thailand must continue to endure and exercise restraint, and not be tricked by Vietnam into joining the fighting. What people in the cities can contribute to the country is visiting these border people and authorities whenever it is convenient for them to do so.

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CSO: 4207/176

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

GDR MILITARY ATTACHE ON ARMY TRADITIONS, COOPERATION

BK010838 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2330 GMT 27 Feb 86

[Statement by Lt Col (Georg Kersick), military attache of the GDR Embassy in Vietnam, to listeners of the Voice of Vietnam on the occasion of the 30th founding anniversary of the GDR National People's Army--date not given--recorded in German fading into superimposed Vietnamese translation]

[Summary] Dear Vietnamese comrades and friends, on 1 March this year, all soldiers, noncommissioned officers, and officers of the National People's Army, together with the working class, the collectivized peasantry, and all the working people in the GDR, will mark the 30th founding anniversary of the National People's Army--the first worker "peasant army in the history of the GDR nation. On this occasion, on behalf of all the cadres and soldiers of the GDR National People's Army, I would like to convey to you my greetings of militant fraternity.

The 30th founding anniversary of the National People's Army, which will be celebrated at a time when the SED is to convene its 11th Congress, will be an opportunity for all army cadres and soldiers to intensify their efforts to defend the gains of socialism. The goal of all these efforts is to gloriously fulfill the duty entrusted by the party and the working class--namely to stand shoulder to shoulder with their militant friends in the Soviet Union and other fraternal socialist countries in the defense of the socialist system and the peaceful life of the peoples of the GDR and all other countries in the socialist community against all offensives by warlike imperialist and reactionary forces.

Facing the strongest elements of the NATO ground forces, the GDR National People's Army is now, together with the armies of fraternal socialist countries, standing ready for combat; and it has fully realized its special responsibility to safeguard peace and the boundary separating the two world systems right in the heart of Europe. Over the past 3 decades, the GDR National People's Army has developed into a modern army in the socialist military alliance thanks to the Marxist-Leninist military line of the SED and to the leadership exercised by the party over the armed forces.

"So long as the socialist community is still threatened by imperialist military forces, the consolidation of the community's unity will remain the fundamental

requirement for the security of each socialist country. This fundamental concept decides the relations between the peoples of the GDR and Vietnam as well as between the armies of the two nations. All the citizens of the GDR and cadres and soldiers of the National People's Army respect the achievements already recorded by the Vietnamese people and the VPA in their victorious fight against French colonialism and U.S. imperialism to totally liberate the nation and reunify the fatherland.

"We note with pleasure that the friendship and cooperation between our two armies have been developing comprehensively and continually. This continual development is reflected in the official visit to the GDR last year by a high-level VPA delegation led by Comrade Senior General Van Tien Dung, minister of defense of the SRV.

"In the future, all cadres and soldiers of the GDR National People's Army will do their best to contribute to further consolidating the aforesaid friendship, solidarity, and cooperation."

Dear Vietnamese comrades and friends, may I avail myself of this occasion to wish you new, yet greater successes in preparation for the convocation of the Sixth CPV Congress. You can rest assured that all the cadres and soldiers of the GDR National People's Army always stand firmly by our side and support your struggle to safeguard peace in Southeast Asia. Thank you, comrades and friends, for your attention.

/8918

CSO: 4209/351

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

CPV MESSAGE GREET'S MPRP'S 65TH ANNIVERSARY

BK011240 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 28 Feb 86

[Text] The CPV Central Committee recently lent the following greeting message to the MPRP Central Committee:

Dear Comrades: On the occasion of the glorious MPRP's 65th founding anniversary, on behalf of the CPV and the working class and people of Vietnam, we would like to convey to you and through you, to the working class and people of Mongolia, our cordial fraternal sentiments and warmest greetings.

In the past 65 years, armed with Marxism-Leninism and encouraged by the Great October Revolution, the MPRP has led the Mongolian people through the various stages of the heroic struggle and has won glorious victories in transforming and building the country, turning the underdeveloped Mongolia into a socialist country with an increasingly developed industry and agriculture and its people's material and moral lives constantly improved.

The Mongolian people are now working with enthusiasm and self-denial to fulfill victoriously the Seventh 5-Year Plan, scoring worthy achievements to greet the Nineteenth MPRP Congress.

The MPR has become an important member of the socialist community and a positive factor in the protection of peace in Asia and the world over. With its foreign policy of peace solidarity, and close cooperation with the Soviet Union, other socialist countries, and with the revolutionary, democratic, and progressive forces in the world, the MPR's international prestige and position has been constantly enhanced.

The CPV and the government and people of Vietnam warmly support the MPR's peace initiatives full of goodwill which are aimed at safeguarding the peace and security of nations in Asia and the Pacific and contributing to the consolidation of peace and security in the world.

Dear comrades: We are pleased to see that the fraternal friendship, militant solidarity, and comprehensive cooperation between the CPV and the MPRP and between the Vietnamese and Mongolian peoples has been sealed by the treaty of friendship and cooperation between our two countries, has been constantly consolidated and strengthened, and has brought about extremely fine results.

May the fraternal Mongolian people under the leadership of the glorious MPRP score glorious achievements in socialist construction, thus making great contributions to the struggle for the peace and security of nations in the world.

May the fraternal friendship and cooperation between the two parties and peoples of our two countries be ever fresh and lasting! Please receive our communist salutations.

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CSO: 4209/351

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

NHAN DAN MARKS MONGOLIAN PARTY ANNIVERSARY

OW010833 Hanoi VNA in English 0714 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] Hanoi, VNA, March 1--The national daily NHAN DAN, organ of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, today warmly acclaims the great achievements obtained by the Mongolian people over the past 65 years since the foundation of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party (MPRP) on March 1, 1921.

The paper says:

"Under the glorious banner of the MPRP, the past 65 years was a flourishing period of the Mongolian revolution. Following the triumph of the 1921 revolution, which toppled the rotten feudal regime, the MPRP has led the Mongolian people to overcome untold difficulties left by the old regime and embark on national reconstruction. The 3d Congress of the MPRP in August 1924 charted out the general guidelines to take the country along the path of non-capitalist development, and step by step, build socialism in Mongolia.

"Through the implementation of the four programs worked out of the party for each revolutionary stage, and of the seven five-year plans for socio-economic development, Mongolia has achieved profound changes in all fields. Today, it has become a strong socialist country with developed industry and agriculture, advanced culture and education, powerful national defence and with increasingly improved material and cultural standards."

NHAN DAN lays special emphasis on the outstanding achievements of Mongolia in food production as well as its fast development in industry.

It goes on: "Externally, loyal to the Marxist-Leninist principles, MPRP has constantly preserved and fostered its militant solidarity with the Soviet Union and the fraternal socialist community as a whole, actively contributing to the struggle for the defence of peace, security and national independence in Asia and the Pacific and elsewhere in the world.

"The MPRP has always reserved fine sentiments and precious support for the revolutionary cause of the Vietnamese people," NHAN DAN further says.

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CSO: 4200/757

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

VNA REVIEWS FEBRUARY'S MAIN NEWS EVENTS

OW030749 Hanoi VNA in English 0704 GMT 3 Mar 86

[Text] Hanoi, VNA, March 3--February 1--A delegation of the World Federation of Democratic Youth led by Vilmos Cserveny, general secretary of the federation and secretary of the Hungarian Communist Youth Union, paid an official visit to Vietnam.

February 2--The Council of Ministers called a conference in Buon Ma Thuot, provincial town of Darlac Province, to discuss the redistribution of the workforce and population in the central highlands.

February 5--The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, the National Assembly, the State Council, the Council of Ministers, the Central Committee of the Vietnam fatherland front and the party committee and people's committee of Ho Chi Minh City arranged a meeting with more than 200 representatives of intellectuals, personalities, writers, artistes and journalists in the city.

February 6--A press conference was held here by Austrian Foreign Minister Leopold Gratz on his official visit to Vietnam from February 5-7.

February 9--During the 3 days of the Lunar New Year Festival (February 7-9)--Chinese troops fired nearly 1,000 rounds of mortar and artillery on some areas of Vi Xuyen District, Ha Tuyen Province.

February 13--A ceremony was held at Dong Da Hill in Hanoi to mark the 197th anniversary of the Dong Da victory over the 200,000 strong aggressor army of the Chinese Qing dynasty.

February 14--A U.S. congressional delegation consisting of nine representatives led by Gerald Solomon, director of the special committee for the MIA question in southeast Asia, paid a 2-day visit to Vietnam.

February 22--the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the People's Republic of Kampuchea exchanged here instruments of ratification on the treaty of national border delimitation.

--the 500-bed Vietnam-Poland friendship hospital was inaugurated in the central Vietnam Province of Nghe An, about 300 km south of Hanoi.

--a teach-in on the present international situation and the Soviet peace initiatives put forth by CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev was arranged here in honour of the international year of peace.

February 24--From February 15-21, Chinese troops fired 4,000 mortar rounds into 13 areas in Vi Xuyen District, and 100 rockets on hills 1855 and 1949 in Dong van District, Ha Tuyen Province.

February 26--Le Duan, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, delivered his greetings at the 27th Congress of the CPSU in Moscow.

February 27--State Council President Truong Chinh extended his congratulations to the new president of the Philippines, Mrs Corazon Aquino.

The People's Committee of the Southern Coastal Province of Kien Giang released 244 Thai fishermen captured while illegally fishing in Vietnamese waters.

February 28--After visiting Kampuchea, Mr T. Kunigi, UN secretary's special representative in charge of coordinating program for humanitarian aid to Kampuchea, visited Vietnam from February 25-28.

/8918

CSO: 4200/757

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS COMMUNIQUE ON PALME DEATH

OW031754 Hanoi VNA in English 1557 GMT 3 Mar 86

[Text] Hanoi, 3 Mar (VNA)--All public offices throughout the country will fly national flags at half-mast from 4-5 March mourning for Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme, who was assassinated in Stockholm on 1 March.

This comes in a communique released here today by the Council of Ministers.

The communique praises the late Prime Minister Olof Palme as an outstanding Swedish statesman and a staunch fighter for peace, national independence, friendship and cooperation among nations.

Prime Minister Olof Palme, the communique says, was a close and great friend of the Vietnamese people, who was one of the founders and promoters of the friendship and cooperation between Sweden and Vietnam. He had strongly supported the Vietnamese people's struggle against the U.S. imperialists for national salvation right from its beginning.

Olof Palme's death, it continues, is a great loss to the Swedish people as well as to the Vietnamese people and all other nations cherishing peace and national independence. The Council of Ministers of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam decided nationwide mourning be observed for two days from 4-5 March during the mourning, national flag be flown at half-mast and all entertainments be suspended, the communique says.

/8309

CSO: 4209/760

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

BRIEFS

SRI LANKAN DELEGATION MET--Hanoi, VNA, Feb 28--A delegation of the Sri Lanka National Committee for Solidarity with Vietnam led by President Chandra Gunasekera paid a visit to Vietnam from February 15-26 as guest of the Vietnam Committee for solidarity and friendship with other peoples. While here, Chandra Gunasekera, who is also deputy general secretary of the Lanka Sama Samaja Party (LSSP), member of the international secretariat of the Asian Buddhists' Conference for Peace (ADCP) and secretary of the Sri Lanka National Centre of the (ABCP) and secretary of the Sri Lanka National Centre of the ABCP, and his party were received by Huynh Tan Phat, vice president of the State Council and president of the Vietnam fatherland front Central Committee, and Prof Hoang Minh Giam, president of the host committee. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0716 GMT 28 Feb 86 OW] /8918

FUNCTIONS WELCOME CPSU CONGRESS--Hanoi, VNA, March 1--The Commission for Propaganda and training of the Hanoi party organization and city's chapter of the Vietnam-USSR Friendship Association jointly held a meeting here today to greet the current 27th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. The meeting was attended by more than 500 officials in charge of the propaganda and training work in public offices and mass organizations. Taking the floor, Hong Ha, alternate member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and editor-in-chief of the party's daily NHAN DAN, gave a run-down of the draft program of the CPSU and its foreign policy aimed at speeding up the struggle for peace and social progress. A meeting was held here yesterday at the Ministry of Labour to welcome the CPSU Congress in the presence of Minister of Labour Dao Thien Thi and Soviet exports working at the ministry. The Vietnam-USSR Friendship Association chapter in the central province of Nghia Binh (membership 5,000) has arranged talks on the significance of the congress. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1525 GMT 1 Mar 86 OW] /8918

SOVIET FILM WEEK OPENS--Hanoi, VNA, March 1--A Soviet film week was opened here this evening under the auspices of the Vietnamese Ministry of Culture in honour of the 27th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. Many Soviet films will be screened on this occasion in many provinces and cities across the country, especially at major construction sites and economic centres where many Soviet experts are working such as the Hoa Binh Hydro-electric Power Plant on the Da River, the Pha Lai Thermo-Electric Power Plant, the joint Vietnam-USSR petroleum venture in the Vung Tau-Con Dao special sector. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1530 GMT 1 Mar 86 OW] /8918

CONDOLENCES ON PALME'S DEATH--Hanoi, VNA, March 2--President of the State Council Truong Chinh today conveyed his most heartfelt condolences to his majesty the King of Sweden Carl Gustaf XVI over the brutal death of Prime Minister Olof Palme. The message says: "The late Prime Minister Olof Palme is an outstanding and indefatigable fighter for peace, disarmament in Europe and the world, the independence of nations and the development of the countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America, and for relations of friendship and cooperation on an equal footing among nations of the world. "From the early days of his political career, the late Prime Minister Olof Palme had extended to the Vietnamese people's struggle his deep sympathy and vigorous support. He was the initiator and persevering architect and champion of the ever growing friendship and cooperation between Sweden and Vietnam. "Prime Minister Olof Palme's death spells an immense loss for the Swedish people as well as for the Vietnamese people and all peoples cherishing peace and independence across the world. "While sharing their boundless grief, I am deeply convinced that the government and people of Sweden will continue Prime Minister Olof Palme's noble cause and that the relations of freindship between our two countries will continue to grow." Chairman of the Council of Ministers Pham van Dong has also sent his condolences to acting Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1450 GMT 2 Mar 86 OW] /8918

SRV-GDR ECONOMIC, TRADE TIES--Hanoi, VNA, March 2--NHAN DAN today expresses sincere and profound gratitude to the party, government and people of the German Democratic Republic for their valuable support and assistance to the Vietnamese people's revolutionary cause. In an article marking the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Vietnam-GDR economic and trade relations, the paper notes that these relations have been considerable stepped up since the signing of the Vietnam-GDR treaty of friendship and cooperation in December 1977. It goes on: "With funds and loans from the GDR, Vietnam has built many economic and cultural projects. More than 100 small repair workshops built with GDR assistance are making their effect felt more and more clearly. Thousands of scientific and technical cadres and technicians of different branches trained in the GDR are a precious asset for Vietnam in the building of socialism...the German Democratic Republic has supplied Vietnam with many valuable materials, machinery, spare parts and consumer goods. In the 1986-90 period, the two countries will increase the value of goods exchange by more than 20 per cent compared with the last 5-year plan, and broaden the range of commodities to be exchanged. "The GDR will continue intensive investment in the projects already installed in Vietnam. The two countries will step up cooperation in the production of industrial plants such as rubber, coffee, pepper and coconut in Vietnam, in the production in Vietnam of goods with materials supplied by the GDR, especially in light industry. The two countries will also cooperate in geological survey in Vietnamese territory." [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0720 GMT 2 Mar 86 OW] /8918

PRIME MINISTER PALME MOURNED--Hanoi, VNA, March 2--The national daily NHAN DAN frontpages the report of Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme's assassinations early yesterday. The paper also carries a short biography of Olof Palme and his portrait. NHAN DAN says: "Prime Minister Olof Palme was an outstanding fighter who indefatigably struggled for peace and national independence, for the development of the countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America, and for the friendship and equal cooperation among nations all over the world. Prime Minister Olof Palme was a great and close friend of the Vietnamese people, who initiated and took great care to foster the friendship and fruitful cooperation between Vietnam and Sweden throughout the past 20 years." [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0718 GMT 2 Mar 86 OW] /8918

NEW FRENCH AMBASSADOR--Hanoi, 3 Mar (VNA)--French Ambassador Louis Amigues today presented his credentials to Vice President of the State Council Nguyen Huu Tho. Vice President Nguyen Huu Tho had a cordial conversation with the French diplomat. Also present were Hoang Bich Son, deputy foreign minister, and Le Trang, deputy head of the office of the National Assembly and the State Council. [Text]
[Hanoi VNA in English 1552 GMT 3 Mar 86] /8309

UN SECRETARY GENERAL'S REPRESENTATIVE VISITS--After visiting Cambodia, Mr (Takuro Kunuchi), special representative of the UN Secretary General in charge of coordinating programs of humanitarian aid to Cambodia, visited our country from 25-28 February. Assistant to the Foreign Minister Nguyen Duy Lien received and worked with Mr (Kunuchi) on issues of mutual interest. [Text]
[Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 28 Feb 86 BK] /8918

HANOI REPORTS MARCOS RESIGNATION--According to foreign sources, on 25 February Mr Ferdinand Marcos announced his resignation as president of the Philippines. Mr Marcos, his wife, and many of his aides, were flown to the U.S. Clar Air Base, about 70 km from Manila. The group was later flown to the U.S. Anderson Air Force Base in Guam by U.S. aircraft. The sources said on 26 February Mr Marcos and his entourage were transferred to Hawaii. Earlier, Mrs Corazon Aquino was sworn in as the new president of the Philippines. She has formed a transitional government and appointed Mr Salvador Laurel as vice president and prime minister, Mr Juan Ponce Enrile as minister of defense, and Mr Fidel Ramos as chief of the general staff. Western news agencies have quoted many high-ranking White House and Pentagon officials as saying that U.S. military bases in the Philippines--such as Clark and Subic Bay--are irreplaceable and that the United States cannot abandon them. [Text] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 28 Feb 86 BK] /8918

CONDOLENCES ON PALME'S DEATH--The Vietnamese people were overwhelmed with grief upon learning of the assassination of Prime Minister Olof Palme. May we extend our heartfelt condolences to the Swedish Government and people and the family of the late prime minister. Right in the early days of his political life, the late Prime Minister Olof Palme gave warm sentiments and strong support to the Vietnamese people's struggle. He was a vivid symbol of the Swedish people's movement to support and assist the Vietnamese people in their past struggle for national liberation and in their present national reconstruction. He was the one who established and persistently protected and cultivated the ever-developing friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and Sweden. He was an outstanding fighter who tirelessly struggled for the cause of peace and national independence and for friendly relations and equal cooperation among nations in the world. The death of Prime Minister Olof Palme is an extremely great loss for the Swedish people. The Vietnamese people have lost an extremely close great friend; the peace-loving people throughout the world have lost a stalwart fighter. Sharing this boundless grief, I am deeply convinced that

the Swedish Government and people will carry on the lofty cause of the late Prime Minister Olof Palme and that the friendly relations between our two countries will continue to develop. [2 March message of condolences from Pham Van Dong, chairman of SRV Council of Ministers, to Swedish Acting Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson] [Text] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 2 Mar 86 BK] /8918

CSO: 4209/351

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

NGUYEN HUU THO VISITS HO CHI MINH CITY

BK270907 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Nguyen Huu Tho, vice chairman of the Council of State and chairman of the National Assembly recently visited a number of economic establishments in Ho Chi Minh City and the Tri An hydroelectric power construction site. He also visited a consumer cooperative in the 5th precinct--an economic unit of the Ho Chi Minh City's trade sector--and the 18th subward consumer cooperative of the 1st precinct which has just been awarded the 1985 labor hero title by the state. The national assembly chairman urged these two cooperatives to strive to promote their trade and improve the local people's daily life.

The chairman commended cooperatives for their efforts in strengthening their work and participating in public welfare activities such as the building of public health posts, nurseries, and kindergartens as well as in caring for families with the favored treatment status. The chairman urged local cadres to play close attention to the people, and study and satisfactorily solve their various problems so as to create confidence and solidarity between the people and the party.

Visiting the Go Vap leather shoe factory, which is attached to Ho Chi Minh City's industrial sector, Chairman Nguyen Huu Tho commended cadres and workers for their efforts during the past 10 years in overcoming difficulties and implementing resolutions of the party Central Committee's seventh, eighth, and ninth plenums, thereby creating favorable changes for production and the people's daily life, procuring products for the society, and contributing to export. The factory has increased its production from 23,000 pairs of shoes in 1976 to 960,000 pairs in 1985. Through its exports, the factory has contributed more than 3 million dong to the state.

The chairman also pointed to difficulties faced by the nation at present, especially in production and in [words indistinct] seeds. He urged all sectors to strive to implement the resolutions of the party Central Committee's eighth and ninth plenums, stressed the responsibility of various echelons and sectors--especially grassroots units--in accelerating production and contributing ideas to the state to design measures to overcome difficulties and fulfill production plan norms.

At the Tri An hydroelectric power construction site, a large number of cadres, workers, and Soviet specialists warmly welcomed Chairman Nguyen Huu Tho. The chairman visited the main building and [words indistinct] of the site. Chairman Nguyen Huu Tho welcomed the selfless efforts and the fraternal solidarity between the Vietnamese cadres and workers and Soviet specialists which has enabled them to overcome various difficulties, develop initiatives, and fulfill all set targets. The chairman said: Together with the Hoa Binh hydroelectric power project, the Tri An hydroelectric power project has contributed to increasing the material bases of socialism. In 1986 the first generator will be commissioned and [words indistinct] in 1987. He continued: There is still a great deal of work to be carried out, so responsible cadres and units must satisfactorily organize labor, improve the quality and effectiveness of their work, and strive to score new achievements. He urged them to pay attention to improving the standard of living of cadres and workers at the site, especially the Soviet specialists who are helping to build the project.

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CSO: 4209/351

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

CHU HUY MAN ADDRESSES HOSPITAL ANNIVERSARY

OW031123 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Military hospital number 108 under the rear service general department recently held a ceremony to commemorate its 35th founding anniversary and receive the "hero of the people's armed forces" title.

Attending, among others, was Senior General Chu Huy Man, member of the Political Bureau of the CPV Central Committee, vice chairman of the Central Military Party Committee, vice chairman of the Council of State, and director of the Political General Department. Also present were many comrade leaders of the National Defense Ministry; its general departments and agencies; units and hospitals of the entire Army; representatives of ministries, the Hanoi Municipal Party Committee and people's committee, many organs, mass organizations, and hospitals at the central level and in Hanoi.

Senior Colonel Bui Dai, director of military hospital number 108, read a report in which he pointed out the hospital's achievements in the past 35 years of building and combat support work.

The comrade secretary of the hospital party committee read the Council of State's decision to confer the "hero of the people's armed forces" title on military hospital number 108.

Addressing the attendees, Senior General Chu Huy Man praised military hospital number 108 which, through the stages of victorious fighting of our armed forces and people, has overcome all ordeals and difficulties in wholeheartedly devoting itself to saving the lives of, and treating, wounded and sick soldiers; and serving the troops well so they could remain combat ready and fight victoriously. He strongly recommended all cadres, combatants, workers, and civil servants to endeavor to promote the working-class nature, the glorious tradition of the nation and the Army--the tradition that has been further enhanced over the past many years by this heroic unit--to remain united and be of one mind; to be thoroughly imbued with President Ho Chi Minh's teachings; to endeavor in their studies and scientific and technical research; to improve their organizations; and to raise the quality of their services so as to deserve the "hero of the people's armed forces" title.

/8918

CSO: 4209/351

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

NHAN DAN EDITORIAL CRITICIZES PARTY LEADERSHIP

HK020952 Hong Kong AFP in English 0920 GMT 2 Mar 86

[By Laurent Maillard]

[Text] Hanoi, March 2 (AFP)--Vietnam's leaders have made serious mistakes in implementing the country's economic reforms, the Vietnamese Communist Party organ NHAN DAN has charged.

In a strongly-worded editorial, which observers said indicated changes to come in the party leadership, NHAN DAN criticized officials for their "subjectivity, impatience and simplistic approach" in making decisions and realising the wide-ranging economic reforms launched last year.

The editorial Saturday directly attacked the country's highest organs of power, an unusual departure.

"The Politburo, the Secretariat of the party Central Committee and the Ministerial Council have made severe criticisms and self-criticisms," it said.

"The primary responsibility for the current situation lies with the leading party organs."

In particular, steep price rises, which followed the lifting of price controls and have not been accompanied by compensatory pay increases, have fuelled growing discontent among the people and provoked within the party itself lively debate on how to cope with the problem, observers here said.

NHAN DAN stressed that "the direction of the reforms is correct" and that Vietnamese leaders were "determined not to return to the previous centralised and bureaucratic subsidy system."

The editorial, which breaks a 2-month-long silence in the press and on the part of officials about the economic difficulties encountered since the reforms began, seems to portend new dismissals of party leaders in the government, and perhaps even within the Politburo itself, observers said.

The first victim of the popular discontent that accompanied the current economic crisis was the deputy premier in charge of prices and pay, Tran Phuong, who was dismissed in January.

The NHAN DAN editorial also indicated that the government had, after an appreciable period of indecision, decided on certain measures to cope with the crisis, observers said.

The most urgent tasks are "to stabilize prices, particularly for essential goods, and to take steps to guarantee the maintenance of the buying power of wages," the editorial commented.

Specifically, local authorities will be allowed to fix prices and to ration certain staple goods sold in state shops "on a provisional basis," while taking care not to interfere with prices for products sold on one free market, the paper said.

This partial return to rationing and subsidies, which were eliminated under the price and wage reforms, began in mid-January in certain towns, including Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City, but it has never been officially announced, observers said.

NHAN DAN also called for salary adjustments to be made by local authorities and called on all production units to "discipline prices."

It added that "special and urgent" measures were necessary "to maintain the value of the currency, stabilize national finances and bring back a balanced budget."

Inflation has skyrocketed here since August last year, raising the price of rice and soup sold in street stalls--the basic diet in Vietnam--threefold or fourfold.

As a result, the black market for gold and U.S. dollars is thriving, the value of the latter against the dong having increased fivefold since August.

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CSO: 4200/757

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

BRIEFS

CUBAN CP CONGRESS--Hanoi, VNA, Feb 27--Nguyen van Linh, Political Bureau member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and secretary of the party committee of the Ho Chi Minh City, recently gave a talk in the city about the success of the recent congress of the Communist Party of Cuba. Nguyen van Linh was head of the delegation of the Communist Party of Vietnam to the congress. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0747 GMT 28 Feb 86 OW] /8918

PRODUCTION ESTABLISHMENTS VISITED--Hanoi, 26 Feb (VNA)--Nguyen Huu Tho, vice president of the State Council and chairman of the National Assembly, recently visited a number of production establishments in southern provinces. He called at the La Nga sugar factory, Nang Na Province, north of Ho Chi Minh City, which has a capacity of 170 tons of sugar a day. The factory was inaugurated in April 1984, since then it marketed more than 17,000 tons of sugar. The chairman visited the Phu Ngoc sugarcane state farm also in Dong Nai. At present, it grows 1,500 ha of sugarcane and it plans to put 2,300 ha under high-yield sugarcane varieties. He toured the Tri An hydroelectric power construction site. He warmly praised the Vietnamese and Soviet workers in overcoming difficulties to overfulfill their work norms in the past three successive years. Chairman Nguyen Huu Tho also visited two supply and marketing cooperatives and the Go Vap leather shoes factory in Ho Chi Minh City. The chairman hailed the factory for increasing its production from 23,000 pairs of shoes in 1976 to 960,000 pairs in 1985. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0717 GMT 26 Feb 86] /8309

CSO: 4209/760

18 March 1986

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE, AND FINANCE

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PASSES ESSENTIAL ECONOMIC TASKS FOR 1986

Hanoi LAO DONG in Vietnamese 2 Feb 86 pp 1,2

[Text] In 1986, there must be greater concentration on the main front--agriculture. The task of first importance is grain production (including rice, subsidiary crops, and all other grains that are made into flour); the goal of 20 million tons is essential to satisfy the increased food demand and the need for reserves.

Intensive cultivation and expansion of crop areas must be stepped up for subsidiary crops, especially corn, as well as for rice. These efforts must be complemented by labor supplementation in each region and each locality to the point that all land capable of raising subsidiary crops and flour-yielding crops is completely used up.

The primary method will be to step up water conservancy, especially in such key areas as the Mekong River and Red River Deltas, restoring the network of canals and dikes and of irrigation and drainage projects in areas subject to storms and flooding.

More draft power and pumps are needed to expand the area devoted to raising winter-spring and summer-fall rice. The production and use of stable manure and green manure must be increased and scientific advances applied to ensure good seeds. In addition to amounts allocated by the central echelon, localities must devote some of the foreign currency funds obtained from the export of industrial crops and marine products to import more fertilizer and insecticides to make up for current shortages and balance food production.

Stress must be placed on raising industrial crops, especially short term varieties, and on creating crop specialization areas for concentrating investments and performing intensive cultivation to rapidly increase commodity yields. Projected minimum yield increases for 1986 are 10 percent for peanuts, 16 percent for soybeans, 7 percent for tobacco, and 32 percent for sugar cane.

With long-term industrial crops such as rubber, coffee, and tea, investments are to be concentrated on the currently available area under cultivation while simultaneously adding labor and land, combining state-operated,

collective, and family businesses, and promoting the expansion of the cultivated area. It is particularly important to ensure that contracts signed with foreign countries are honored. Rubber output is to increase 5 percent, coffee yields 38 percent, and tea yields 11 percent. We must promote efforts to raise coconut, betel, anise, cinnamon, and fruit.

As far as livestock raising is concerned, swine herds and poultry flocks must be rapidly increased in response to the food demand and for export. The number of buffaloes and cattle must be increased in each region, especially in the midlands, mountain regions, and Central Highlands. Swine are to increase 11.7 percent, domestic fowl 11 percent, and bovines 8 percent.

In forestry, there is to be a widespread drive to plant trees; the pace of covering hilltops with greenery is to be stepped up; present forest resources are to be protected. Forestry and agriculture are to be tied tightly to the processing industry, tree planting is to be complemented with raising such special products as coconuts, anise, and cinnamon, and stability is to be put into farming and life.

The lumber output goal for 1984 (sic) is 1.4 million square meters.

The culturing and raising of marine products will continue to develop, especially culturing shrimp for export in the delta and seacoast and intensively cultivating and using the entire area under cultivation to raise fresh-water fish in all regions. In 1986, the output of fish will increase 2 percent and export marine products 10 percent over 1985.

Coal output must increase. The output goal of 11 percent above that of 1985 must be reached. Mining by small, local coal mines must be encouraged. Emphasis must be placed on seeing to the daily life of mine workers. The Ministry of Food and Ministry of Home Trade must supply sufficient food; the State Bank must ensure timely funds appropriate to coal output.

The output of electricity is to increase 12 percent. Management is to be increased and more technical advances applied to conserve 6-10 percent of coal and oil.

Adherence to the plan for supplying coal and oil to the electric power sector must be insured, and goals must be met for stocking electric power plants with coal regularly.

The output of phosphorous fertilizer will increase 6 percent. Small-scale mining by phosphorus mines must be encouraged in provinces in order to increase sources of fertilizer for agriculture.

Steel output is to increase 2.6 percent, and the output of high-grade steel is to be raised. Advanced technology is to be used for electric furnace cast iron, and small smelting furnaces are to be restored in installations to increase products.

In machinery and electronics, the production of all types of repair parts is to be increased, and more machinery, equipment, and tools are to be produced for use in agriculture, water conservancy, communications and transportation, and metal goods and food processing industries.

Efforts must be expanded to prospect for oil and natural gas, urgently prepare for its extraction, and strive to output crude oil soon. Search and exploration for urgently needed minerals must be stepped up.

The supply of raw materials and electricity to cement factories must be stabilized. Uniform solutions must be reached to problems of production zones, bagging, and transportation to increase productivity.

Regarding the consumer goods production and food processing industries, all necessary material assets must be concentrated on producing a number of essential goods, such as textiles, writing paper, pharmaceuticals, and export products.

Due to a shortage of cotton and thread, the output goals for textiles will stay at the 1985 level, but the output of mosquito netting and towels will increase, and the structure of textiles will change in category and color as required by society's demand for consumer goods.

Paper production will increase 9 percent, ensuring that there is enough writing paper for students and paying particular attention to the production of paper for printing books and magazines.

Regarding other consumer goods, planning has specified that the output of sugar will increase 5.5 percent in 1986, processed tea 16 percent, canned goods 13 percent, and tobacco 2 percent.

Output goals have been raised moderately for wood products, ceramics, earthenware, porcelain, crystal, plastics, rushes, rattan, and bamboo, guaranteeing the satisfaction of normal demands of the people.

Regarding the railways, there must be enough coal to keep trains running, and available engines and cars must be mobilized to the maximum extent. Efforts must be made to increase the rapid turnabout of cars.

As for waterway transportation, dredging must continue in the Haiphong Harbor area, in Cua Lo Harbor, and in seaports and river ports. There must be an increase in the passage of ocean vessels on riverways to Hanoi and to western provinces of Nam Bo.

Emphasis is to be placed on both motorized and rudimentary means of waterway transportation, utilizing wind, water, and currents of rivers and streams.

Currently available motor transport forces must be reorganized and used more efficiently, with thorough conservation and no loss of gasoline.

Cargo planes of the civilian airlines must be repaired well and improved, the quality of service raised, and service extended to increase foreign currency.

Efforts will be made to increase value in the posts and telecommunications sector and raise the quality of communications and liaison. Exhaustive efforts will be brought to bear on bringing into service a number of posts and telecommunications projects during 1968.

Capital construction must be concentrated on key projects in 1986; investment must not be level and even. Conservation must be practiced in every way and waste avoided, so that installation construction costs and other capital construction costs are reduced by at least 10 percent.

With industrial investments amounting to 39.9 percent of the total, concentration must be placed on Hoa Binh and Tri An Hydroelectric Stations, in order to be enable activation of team 1 within 1987, on the Vung Tau Oil and Gas project, and on coal mines. Investment is to continue in the Pha Lai Power Plant, Ha Tien Cement Factory, Cam Pha Central Machine Plant, the Hue Motor Repair Plant, the Quy Hop Tin Coalition, etc.

Investments in agriculture and forestry, amounting to 24.2 percent in 1985, will be raised to 26.5 percent in 1986, with primary emphasis on reaching goals for food and labor distribution and for reclaiming wasteland to raise long-term industrial crops. First priority for investments is to water conservancy, ensuring that projects are completed at the pace set for 1968.

9830

CSO: 4209/298

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE, AND FINANCE

STATE BANK ISSUES NOTICE ON NEW BANKNOTES

BK270625 Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 1 Feb 86 p 4

[Text] The State Bank recently issued a notice on the issuance and circulation of 20-dong and 50-cent banknotes, effective 1 February 1986.

Following are the characteristics of these banknotes:

--20-dong banknote:

It is 64mm by 128mm, on white background with a watermark picture of a bird and with numerous illustrations of lotus flowers. One side shows, in brownish purple lotus flower color, the portrait of President Ho Chi Minh on the right, the national emblem in the near center, with the digits 1985 beneath it. The reverse side, in dark purple lotus flower color, shows scenery around the Mot Cot pagoda.

--50-cent banknotes:

It is 50mm by 100mm, in dark red lotus flower color, on white background with a watermark picture of a bird with many 5-pointed stars. One side shows the Hanoi flag tower on the left with the national emblem on the right and with the words Nam Hao [50 cents] lying beneath it. The reverse side shows many clusters of patterns with the digit 5 in the center and the words Nam Hao in the lower part.

/9604

CSO: 4209/347

AGRICULTURE

HANOI REVIEWS RECENT AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES

OW011057 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 28 Feb 86

[Text] Dear friends: To date, the southern provinces and cities have basically completed harvesting the 10th-month rice and planting the winter-spring rice. However, some eastern Ham Bo provinces are still striving to plant additional acreage. The southern provinces and cities, though far from fulfilling the plan norms, have so far sown winter-spring rice on about 72,000 hectares, an increase of about 50,000 hectares over the same period last year. Some provinces, including Long An, Dong Thap, Cuu Long, Tien Giang, and An Giang, have exceeded the planned acreage. As for the eastern Nam Bo provinces, they have sown rice on only 60 percent of the planned acreage while Ben Tre has sown 85 percent of the planned acreage. The current winter-spring rice crop in the southern provinces and cities is developing fairly well, despite the appearance of insect pests. About 70,000 hectares of early winter-spring rice are now ready for the harvest.

The northern provinces and cities have basically finished the fifth month-spring rice cultivation on schedule. The fast localities include Haiphong, Ham Nam Ninh, Thai Binh, Binh Tri Thien, Thanh Hoa, and Nghe Tinh. Currently, the Bac Bo and midlands provinces are continuing to transplant the late spring rice while the mountainous provinces are planting an additional acreage, striving to complete the planting by 10-15 March.

In general, the northern provinces have enjoyed many basic advantages in the winter-spring rice cultivation this year. In fact, sufficient rice seedlings have been transplanted in accordance with the patterns; the aerated rice acreage of main spring rice has been planted during the best cultivation period.

In recent days, despite the severe cold weather and drizzles, the fifth month and early spring rice crops have developed well. However, the late spring rice crop has been affected. Localities are now concentrating efforts on protecting the freshly transplanted rice.

Regarding vegetables and subsidiary and industrial crops, the entire country has so far planted nearly 120,000 hectares, a decrease in acreage as compared with the same period last year. But a 1.2 percent increase in acreage has been noted in the southern provinces. The acreage of short-term industrial crops in the northern provinces has decreased by about 5 percent, compared with the same period last year.

Currently, the cultivation period is favorable for localities to grow subsidiary and industrial crops. Although many localities have planned to expand the acreage of industrial crops and crops for export, they have encountered difficulties caused by the shortage of supplies, fertilizers, and insecticides in production.

According to the Meteorology and Hydrology General Department, in the days ahead the severe cold weather will persist and temperature will stand below 15°C during the first days. So, to ensure a successful rice crop, the northern provinces should take advantage of warm days and make full use of rice seedlings to plant an additional acreage of fifth month-spring rice. They should strive to protect the freshly transplanted rice acreage and the cattle against the cold weather. Moreover, they should endeavor to prevent, detect, and eradicate insect pests promptly, according to a plan.

According to a cable from the Vegetation Protection Department to the northern provinces' agricultural services, rice blast has appeared in many areas on the glutinous rice, the Indian Mulberry [daau aans dooj], and the A-3, A-4, and Nong Nghiep-8 rice varieties. Localities should inspect ricefields and spray insecticides and should stop applying nitrogenous fertilizer to the affected ricefields.

Currently, the humid weather and wet soil are favorable for localities to concentrate on rapidly completing the planting of a largest acreage of short-term and long-term industrial crops, especially those for export, during the best cultivation period. The southern provinces should pay attention to combating drought and preventing and eradicating insect pests on the late spring rice plantings and should strive to start harvesting the early rice plantings. Moreover, they should ready seeds and draft power and prepare the soil for the summer-fall rice crop.

/8918

CSO: 4209/351

AGRICULTURE

AFFORESTATION PLANS FOR QUANG NAM-DA NANG

OW021612 Hanoi VNA in English 1443 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Hanoi, VNA, March 2--The coastal area of the central province of Quang Nam-Da Nang covers 58,700 hectares, including 14,700 ha of forests.

Combining forestry with industry and agriculture is the long-range policy of this central Vietnam province. From now to 1990, the province, plans to cover 40 percent of its natural land with vegetation, chiefly pine, coconut and cashew.

So far, the province has planted 6,000 ha of concentrated forest or nearly 15 percent of its area. Forth-three cooperatives in the province are looking after the afforestation of the remaining acreage which consists chiefly of sandy hills. Many families have planted from 20,000 to 25,000 trees. Thanks to tree planting, especially the wind-breaking forests along the coast, the agricultural area increased from nearly 20,000 ha in 1976 to 36,000 in 1984, and food production in terms of paddy increased from 24,000 tons to 67,000 tons.

The midlands of the province has nearly 24,000 ha of cultivated area and bare hills. It is crucial for developing forestry and restoring the vegetation devastated during the war so that the whole area will be covered with trees by the year 2,000. The forests and plantations will cater for construction and industry. The main trees for this region are eucalyptus, Tung, cashew and timber trees.

The woody highlands which covers more than 605,000 ha the plan calls for the planting of timber trees and protection of the head-water forests. The watchword is "too feed forest on forest and to feed man on forest" and to combine settlement of nomadic ethnic minorities with the building of small-size forests or gardens-forests. So far, six small-sized forests each covering 300-400 ha have been formed.

Quang Nam-Da Nang Province has so far this year sown nearly 9 million saplings for concentrated planting and another 60 million for scattered planting in the coming rainy season.

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CSO: 4200/757

AGRICULTURE

BRIEFS

DAC NONG DISTRICT DIVIDED--On 22 February the Council of Ministers signed a decision dividing Dac Nong District of Dac Lac Province into two districts, namely Dac Nong and Dac Rap. Dac Nong District is composed of Quang Thanh, Quang Phu, Quang Khe, Quang Son, (Dak Prao), and (Dak Prong) villages. The boundary of Dac Nong District is adjacent to Duc Trong District, Lam Dong Province to the east and the south; to Dac Rap District to the west; and to Dac Min District to the north. Dac Rap is composed of Quang Truoc, Quang Tan, Qung Tin, and Dao Nghia villages. The boundary of Dac Rap is adjacent to Dac Nong District to the east; to Dong Phu District, Song Be Province to the west; to Duc Trong District, Lam Dong Province to the south, and to Cambodia to the north. [Text] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 25 Feb 86 BK] /8918

VINH PHU AFFORESTATION, PRODUCTIVITY--Hanoi, 4 Mar (VNA)--The products of Vinh Phu Province have provided a vivid example of how to regreen a denuded area and diversify the economy in a midland region of Vietnam. To cover the denuded hill with eucalyptus is a major target of the province's economic strategy aimed at preserving the fertility of the soil and also at meeting the urgent demands in raw materials for the paper industry. Vinh Phu's experience shows that strict application of intensive afforestation techniques can ensure the survival rate of 97 percent for a eucalyptus and its annual growth rate of from 3.5 to 5 metres. A hectare of eucalyptus forest can yield 33 cubic metres of timber a year within a cycle of 8 years. Vinh Phu Province has a land area of 4,600 square kilometres, 65 percent of which are hilly lands. In addition to tea which is its main export line, Vinh Phu alone grows lacquer, tung oil tree, prunus armeniaca, groundnut and pineapple. Tea productivity rose from two tons per hectare a year in 1981 to 5 tons in 1985, some farms got as many as 10 tons per hectare. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1459 GMT 4 Mar 86] /8309

CSO: 4209/760

LIGHT INDUSTRY

TEXTILE INDUSTRY HAS 1986 TARGET OF 390 MILLION METERS

Hanoi LAO DONG in Vietnamese 2 Feb 86 p 2

[Text] In 1985 the textiles sector (Ministry of Light Industry) was assigned a production increase target of 20 percent over that of 1984, while approximately the same quantity of essential materials were issued as in 1984. The sector itself had to provide for materials for nearly 100 million meters of textiles due to the low level of materials issue. Thanks to correct policies and initiative, the sector, in spite of difficulties, completely achieved its target for 1985, weaving 380 million meters of fabric, the highest output in the past 10 years. Aside from the main effort, fabric weaving, the sector also met or exceeded all objectives set for such processes as needle weaving, spinning thread, weaving towels, and weaving woolens. In 1985 the sector manufactured many new products, and quality was markedly improved in each product category. Of the 22 mills for which the sector set grade norms, 9 met standards by 100 percent. Exemplary among them were Thanh Cong Textile Mill and Nam Dinh Silk Mill, which had stable standards of quality throughout the year.

Following Thanh Cong last year were five other mills of the sector that satisfied all their own needs for supplies and materials, developed production, and showed a profit. They were Phuoc Long Mill, Bien Hoa Woolens, Vinh Thinh Woolens, Nam Dinh Silk Mill, and Dong Phuong Needle Weaving Mill.

Stepping into 1986, the plan calls for an output of 390 million meters sector-wide, a 7.7 percent increase over that of 1985. The sector has also increased targets for other products by from 9 to 50 percent over those of 1985.

9830
CSO: 4209/298

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS

BRIEFS

BRIDGE LINKING TAN AN, PLAIN OF REED--Hanoi, 4 Mar (VNA)--The Ca Ro bridge linking Tan An, the capital of the Mekong River Delta Province of Long An, with three districts in the swampy plain of reed was recently open to traffic. The 112-metre long concrete bridge passable to lorries under 30 tons is the 26th built in the province in the past 10 years. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1455 GMT 4 Mar 86] /8309

CSO: 4209/760

LABOR

HOLIDAY INTEMPERANCE AT GOVERNMENT OFFICES CRITICIZED

Hanoi VAN NGHE in Vietnamese 1 Feb 86 p 31

[Cartoon]



Key:

1. 28th day of the 12th lunar month [3 days before the Lunar New Year's day]
2. This is the deputy bureau chief. Did you want to talk to him personally?

/6091

CSO: 4209/332

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

NHAN DAN REPORTS PROGRESS IN NUCLEAR SCIENCE APPLICATION

BK271552 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 6 Feb 86 p 3

[Unattributed article: "Activities under the Program for the Application of Nuclear Energy in the National Economy"]

[Text] In the past 5 years (1980-85), our country's nuclear science and technology was marked by an important event: The completion of the restoration and expansion of the Da Lat nuclear reactor and research on the application of nuclear energy in various sectors of the national economy. This is a major state-level program for the application of scientific and technological progress, and it has recorded good initial results.

With the Da Lat nuclear reactor in operation, the program made a study on the production of radioactive isotopes that are greatly needed for medicine, agriculture, industry, and so forth. These are the first radioactive isotopes produced in Vietnam, and during 9 months in 1984, about 20 curies of radioactive materials were produced, resulting in much saving in foreign currency for the country. In addition, fissional analysis techniques have also been applied in various fields. Particularly, the geological sector in 1984-85 used fissional analysis methods to rapidly and accurately assess thousands of ore samples. Along with carrying out analytical tests at mines and in laboratories, quick field tests were also performed and field test equipment assembled for the sector.

In service of agriculture, the program used radioactive isotopes to study the biochemical reactions of various crops that can stand acidity and salinity and especially, of some rice varieties capable of growing in acid and alkaline soil. Radioactive isotope P-32 was also used to observe the absorption of potash by various types of crops, to study and help in increasing growth of hogs, and to monitor the action of biological products contained in animal feed. Various sources of radioactivity were also used to stimulate the growth of some types of crops, including corn in Lam Dong which showed an increase of 10-14 percent in yield on tens of hectares.

Our country's medical sector is equipped with some nuclear medicine facilities. Through still poor in terms of material-technical bases, they have, with assistance from the program, brought into use such radioactive isotopes as Cr-51, Tc-99m, P-32, and Au-198. The sector has successfully studied such

diseases as malaria, hepatitis, anemia...and at the same time, assessed the effectiveness of some types of domestic herbal medicines. Techniques of using radioactive isotopes for medical diagnosis have been developed, and they are gaining acceptance among medical circles. Noteworthy among them are the radioactive immunization technique which is being broadly used at the Bach Mai Hospital, and the gamma room technique which is being used exclusively at the Cho Ray Hospital. Various methods for treating cancer with radioactive rays have become more diverse thanks to the production of radioactive isotopes at home.

In industry, various nuclear techniques have been developed for measurement and inspection purposes. In particular, the inspection of welding seams with gamma rays has been broadly carried out at major worksites such as Pha Lai, Hoa Binh.... Radioactive shuttles have also been used to clean gasoline and oil pipelines, thus greatly increasing transport efficiency. Radioactive sources have been used to alter the physical properties of rubber, wood...and to sterilize medical equipment. Last year, half a million pieces of medical equipment produced in Ho Chi Minh City were sterilized.

Research in nuclear electronics has made it possible to assemble many essential items of equipment for the electronics sector and confirmed the possibility of carrying out mass production to save foreign currency. Many pieces of nuclear medicine equipment have been manufactured in Da Lat and supplied to hospitals in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City.

The program has also paid attention to radioactive safety with a view to protecting workers performing jobs involving radioactivity and studied radioactive emission by natural elements (air, water, soil, rock...) in our country.

The program has started developing the reactor physics sector in our country with the aim of training cadres for the nuclear electricity generating sector of the future and submitting to the state a plan for developing nuclear generated electricity in Vietnam.

The results achieved in the past 5 years by the program for the application of nuclear energy in various sectors of the national economy have partially met the requirements of our country's economic development, but they still remain at a low level as compared with the great capability of nuclear energy to serve mankind's peaceful purposes. In the coming years, we will certainly have to consolidate and expand the results already achieved so as to be worthy of the nation's concern.

/8918

CSO: 4209/351

18 March 1986

PUBLICATIONS

BRIEFS

BOOK ON EDUCATION PUBLISHED--Hanoi, VNA, March 1--The Su That (truth) Publishing House in Hanoi has published a collection of speeches and writings by Pham van Dong, member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers. The 264-page book titled "some questions concerning culture and education" includes the chairman's speeches and essays from March 1956 to November 1984 concerning the functions, tasks, aims, methods and guidelines of culture and education in Vietnam, and also the lofty mission of people working in these fields. The work expounds the CPV's policy on the development of Vietnamese culture and education. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1523 GMT 1 Mar 86 OW] /8918

CSO: 4200/757

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